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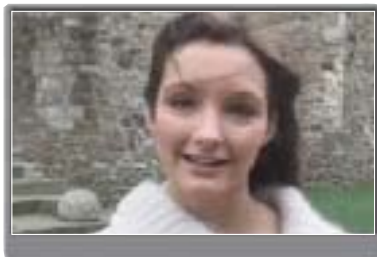


Issue No 168  
Available from Wednesday,  
December 15, 2010



# MANSTON SCRAPE TRIGGERS E.U. BAN

**WHAT'S ON & WATCH**  
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**STAR:** Siobhan Hustler is on TV over Christmas in *The Other Boleyn Girl*. Search 'Hustler'

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ISSN 1753-097-0



## DAVID'S A HUT-TRICK HERO

Margate man David Berger has won a national competition to see his snap of beach huts appear in a parcel network's 2011 calendar. Mr Berger, who works for Harry Levy Amusements in Ramsgate, saw off competition from across the UK to have his photo feature on the APC calendar's July page. He will be presented with a framed copy of his picture of huts at Southwold in Suffolk; copies of the calendar; and a bottle of champagne to toast his triumph.

## EXCLUSIVE

BY FLORENCE TENNENT

A PLANE accident at Manston airport has triggered an EU-wide ban on all Afghan-registered airlines.

In the incident, on Wednesday, August 11, a DC8 Kam Air plane skidded its tail on the runway and the grass surface beyond during take-off from the airport.

Charles Buchanan, Manston airport chief executive, said: "The flight scraped its tail as it took off. It was reported to the pilot and authorities, but the aircraft chose to continue on its journey."

"I believe it was a freight service travelling to the Azores and ultimately Argentina."

Following investigations into the incident, the UK imposed a national ban on the airline on Thursday, September 2. Two weeks later, Austrian authorities followed suit, having carried out their own inspection of Kam Air aircraft and finding a significant number of serious safety deficiencies.

Members of the airline and Afghan authorities met the European Commission in October and it was concluded that the aircraft had been introduced "without adequate management oversight and without any adequate training given to the crews" who had "yet to complete the relevant training even though the aircraft continued to be used for international commercial flights".

On Wednesday, November 22, the EU issued a blanket ban on operations by Kam Air and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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# Shock as isle to be hit by some of the worst cuts to funding

THE local-government finance settlement which was announced on Monday revealed that Thanet council would receive 14.5 per cent less Government funding next year.

Headline figures show an 8.9 per cent reduction in revenue spending power in 2011/12, making the isle one of the 12 hardest-hit districts in the country. The average fall is 4.4 per cent and 8.9 is the maximum.

Clive Hart, leader of Thanet Labour group and shadow finance spokesman, said: "Thanet council will lose the absolute maximum 8.9 per cent cut and for two years, while Dorset gets a 0.25 per cent increase in funding and Windsor and Maidenhead, West Sussex [and others] get cuts of 1 per cent or less.

"The fact is the poorest areas like Thanet are the most dependent on central-government funding whereas wealthy areas that receive a lot in council tax are getting extra subsidies after Government promised more central funding to subsidise a freeze in council-tax payments."

However, behind the figures is an even bleaker story. The actual reduction in funding is 12.95 per cent, a loss of £3.4 million, which has been softened by a transitional grant for the first two years.

The actual reduction in Government funding, excluding income from council tax, is 21.25 per cent. Including the transitional grant, Thanet council will receive 14.5 per cent less funding next year.

Council tax will not rise thanks to a Government buffer; however, this is only guaranteed for 2011/12.

Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, said: "By adopting an intelligent and fair approach to the way



TOUGH CHOICES: Labour leader Clive Hart

funding is allocated, we have been able to ensure those parts of the country that are most reliant on central funding continue to get the lion's share... funding fairness underpins this settlement."

This year Thanet council had the highest spending power in Kent, with a budget of £26.6m. However 60 per cent of that came from Government funding. Next year Thanet will still have the highest spending power with a budget of £23.1m but only marginally more than districts such as Canterbury and Maidstone.

Following a period of consultation until January 17, the settlement will be debated in Parliament in early February in time for councils to set their budgets for April.

Cllr Hart said: "Thanet council now faces tough choices about the services it continues to provide and those it will have to cut. At county level, I fear for the future of libraries, sports and childcare facilities.

"With our police service also seeing a 5.1 per cent cut in funding next year and a 6.7 per cent reduction in 2012/13, community safety in Thanet will undoubtedly be put under enormous pressure, too.

"There can have been nothing like this in the history of either Thanet council or Kent County Council."

## Reduced hours for services over holiday

COUNCIL offices and MPs' surgeries are closing over Christmas.

MP Roger Gale's Thanet North constituency office will close at 3pm on Wednesday, December 22. Mr Gale will remain available at any time for emergencies on 07623 978479.

The office for Laura Sandys, Thanet South MP, will close on Friday, December 24. To contact Ms Sandys, constituents are advised to call 01843 589434 and listen to the message.

Ramsgate's district council office will close at 12.30pm, also on Friday, December 24, while Thanet council's Gateway Plus drop-in centre in Margate and the switchboard will follow suit and close at 4pm.

Reduced services will be available from the Gateway centre between Wednesday and Friday, December 29-31, with offices closing at 4pm on New Year's Eve. In emergencies you can phone 01843 292442, or 01707 290270 for a housing-repair crisis.

Margate Visitor Information Centre will shut at 5pm on Christmas Eve.

The crematorium office will be closed on Friday, December 31, but the grounds, remembrance chapel and both Margate and Ramsgate cemeteries will be open as usual.

All services will resume as normal on Tuesday, January 4.

## Fight for gallery light

A COMMUNITY arts organisation is battling developers over a proposed housing block that would cut daylight to the gallery by up to 59 per cent.

Mick Etherton, who runs the Community Pharmacy Gallery in Margate, has expressed his surprise and dismay at plans to knock down the garages next door at Newby's Place and erect two multi-storey flat blocks in their place.

Opening in 2001, the gallery received a £50,000 grant from Thanet council and £40,000 from English Heritage to reinstate the roof lanterns and rooftop terrace to the Grade II-listed building, with a further £20,000 in grants invested in refurbishing the building over the next nine years.

## Snap up special gifts

CLIFTONVILLE's award-winning farmers' market will return for a Christmas special next week.

The monthly market will be on Sunday, December 19, from 10am to 1pm, at the Oval Lawns on the Eastern Esplanade.

Father Christmas will be handing out chocolate treats alongside the market's regular stalls stocking everything from speciality savoury pies and artisan bread to chutneys and preserves.

# Farms provide a home for birds

AN SURVEY has shown how vital Kent's farmland is to providing habitats for birds and identified species that are under threat.

The Volunteer And Farmer Alliance survey was carried out this summer on 11 farms across the county, covering a total area of 1,001.6 hectares.

RSPB South East's farmland adviser Bruce Fowkes said: "We've had a great response from farmers in Kent wanting to take part.

"The Volunteer And Farmer Alliance is all about helping them to help the birds.

"The distribution maps produced from the surveys show where priority species are so farmers can put in place targeted conservation measures."

In the South East, the most abundant birds seen during surveys were the chaffinch and blackbird, both found on 97 per cent of farms, followed by the blue tit on 95 per cent and the wren with 93 per cent.

Some of the least-seen included key species of conservation concern such as the corn bunting and grey partridge, which were seen on only 16 per cent of farms surveyed.

The surveys take place over three visits between April and July, in the early morning when birds are most active and there is the best chance of seeing or hearing as many as possible.

Work is already being done with farmers to help benefit some of the birds seeing the greatest decline.

The data collected from the surveys will add to the understanding of how these birds are doing.

Any farmers or volunteers who would like to take part in the survey can find out more by calling Eleanor Burke on 01273 763616 or emailing eleanor.burke@rspb.org.uk.

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# Tide is turning as John's vision becomes reality

■ BY FLORENCE TENNENT

THE handing-over of the Turner Contemporary gallery in Margate was a day of celebration but also reflection as tribute was paid to the hard work and perseverance which so many have invested.

On Wednesday, last week, the £17.4 million building was handed from Kent County Council to the Turner Contemporary Trust, which will oversee the running of the gallery and its opening on April 16, 2011.

'Beautiful' and 'iconic' were words used to describe the recently-completed interior, with sweeping windows adding drama to the clean, austere lines of the whitewashed rooms.

In speeches from Kent County Council leader Paul Carter and architect David Chipperfield, special mention was made of John Crofts, former chairman of Margate Civic Society, whose vision of a gallery of Turner's artwork set in motion the chain of events that led to the building's construction.

Margate councillor Iris Johnston was a member of a committee which investigated the possibility of a gallery in 1995.

She said: "The sadness is that John is not here. In 1997 he told me his deadline for the project would be when he was dead."

Mr Crofts died on March 7, 2009, at the age of 87, in time to see his dream well under way.

Mick Tomlinson, the Mayor of Margate, said: "Margate deserves this. It's wonderful. It was designed to stand out by one of the world's top architects – you can't beat that."



THE FINEST SEA VIEWS: Guests enjoy the panorama offered by the new Turner Contemporary gallery in Margate

Award-winning architect Mr Chipperfield won the contract to design the building in 2006, after the initial design by Norwegian architects Snøhetta and Spence fell through.

Mr Chipperfield said: "Light is at the centre of the project. Turner has been mentioned, but this is why he was attracted here.

"This view to the north and the light on the water, the physical conditions of light, water and sun – when we get it. We wanted the rooms to feel that light and bring it in. Light is the enemy of art, but we persisted in finding ways of bringing it in. The art spaces are as good as

you could imagine. You won't find better daylight galleries."

He hoped the gallery would act as a bridge between the town and the sea. He said: "Galleries like this have a really important part to play as a cultural centre."

John Durtnell, director of R Durtnell & Sons building contractors, who worked on the gallery, said: "We must ensure that this is not just a world-renowned art centre but also a catalyst for change in Margate. Armed with this fantastic gallery you are going to have an invasion of huge numbers of people."

## Air safety concerns

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

all carriers registered in Afghanistan. DC8 aircraft were last manufactured in 1972.

Mr Buchanan said: "This airline was not a regular user of Manston – as far as I'm aware it was the first time they'd landed here. Airlines have to be licensed to operate, but as long as they are certified we do not have the skills or the authority to carry out checks."

The incident is under investigation by the Air Accidents Investigation Branch, which has yet to publish its findings.

Malcolm Kirkaldie, of Manston Airport Group, said: "It is a cause for concern that this wasn't raised at our recent meeting with the airport and there was no mention of it in the statistics given out.

"This underpins our stance that we need an environmental impact assessment pretty quick and our MPs should be looking at strengthening the system, which hands out permits like confetti."

## Legal-aid warning

THANET Citizens Advice Bureau has warned that cuts to legal aid could deny justice to hundreds of people.

Proposals from the Ministry of Justice would see the legal-aid budget cut by £350 million, stopping all funding for non-emergency housing, debt and benefit legal support and introducing charges for previously-free services.

Separate proposals will also challenge no-win-no-fee claims to cut costs.

Ian Driver, Thanet CAB manager, said: "Hundreds of people in Thanet could be left without access to specialist advice.

"I am worried about older and vulnerable people who find it difficult to understand the benefits system, or might not be able to negotiate with creditors.

"By making it more difficult to appeal, it means the bodies concerned are more likely to get away with not giving people their rights."

Consultation runs until February 14.

## Tory 'worried' by deselection claim

CONFUSION surrounds the position of councillor Ken Gregory, pictured, of St Peter's ward, after rumours he has been deselected by South Thanet Conservative group.

This means he might not stand for the party in next year's district council elections on May 5.

Several sources have confirmed the news to Yourthanet, amid rising speculation among councillors.

Formerly a Labour councillor, Cllr Gregory was elected as a Tory in May 2007.

Asked by Yourthanet about the situation on Monday, Cllr Gregory said: "This is the first I've heard about it. You've got me worried now."

South Thanet Conservatives declined to comment.

## Pinball wizardry

THE Dreamland Trust is bringing a touch of vintage arcade fun to Margate this Christmas.

Pinball machines from the Sixties, Seventies and Eighties, juke boxes and games will be available to play in the Pie Factory project space, courtesy of the Pinball Parlour museum in Ramsgate.

The display opens on Saturday and will run for a week between 10am and 4pm.

Entrance is free and tokens can be bought.

## Isle MPs see light on changing UK's clocks

NORTH and south were united as Isle MPs voted in favour of exploring the possibility of extending daylight savings for all or part of the year.

The Daylight Savings Bill was granted a second reading in Parliament with 92 votes in favour, despite Government opposition.

If passed, the bill will require a cross-party investigation into the benefits of putting the clocks forward an hour in the winter, the summer, or both, which would mean abandoning Greenwich Mean Time and putting the UK in line with European clocks.

The move to forward an hour is supported by leading transport authorities who predict there could be 80 fewer crash victims a year with a lighter afternoon rush-hour.

Seaside towns and other holiday destinations could also benefit from an estimated 70,000-80,000 tourism jobs created nationally. However, later mornings would leave parts of Scotland in darkness until 10am.

Roger Gale, Thanet North MP, speaking at the debate, said: "The point has been made, and it will be made again, that, if the proposal before us were adopted, it would enhance tourism and road safety, that it would be good for sport and for the economy as a whole, and that it

would probably enhance the happiness and well-being of the nation."

The bill will now be sent to a committee whose report will be debated in the Commons for the third and final time. However, the Government does not support the proposal, which would require a trial period if the investigation's findings were positive.

Ed Davey, business minister, said: "Necessary consensus across all parts of the UK does not yet exist to justify a change, or the passing of any legislation on the matter."

Previous attempts to introduce the measure have been unsuccessful.

Laura Sandys, Thanet South MP, criticised the Government's response in a debate on seaside-town regeneration last week.

She said: "The measure would support weaker economies in coastal areas at almost no cost and increase tourism revenue by 10 per cent.

"The fact the Government did not even want to investigate what measures could be put in place was particularly unhelpful. Even the Scottish Nationalists, who are against the proposal, conceded that perhaps there is a case for putting back the date when we revert to GMT.

"Even an extension to the end of November would make a difference."

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# MP Gale whips up storm after snow hits rail services

■ BY FLORENCE TENNENT

AN ISLE MP has blasted the Southeastern train company for what he says was the poor service it provided during the wintry weather at the start of the month.

Fourteen MPs met Southeastern directors on Wednesday last week to discuss the failures that saw passengers stranded for hours as non-high-speed services froze to a halt.

Sensitive carriage-rollers were unable to connect with the snow-covered tracks and, crucially, two Network Rail de-icing trains were being serviced during the blizzard.

Roger Gale, Thanet North MP, said: "Questions as to why there was no window of opportunity to service these engines between March and October produced no explanation."

National data systems were unable to respond to sudden changes and continued to display incorrect messages to commuters, a mistake that transport minister Philip Hammond branded "inexcusable".

## Shortcomings

Charles Horton, Southeastern managing director, apologised for the disruption.

"We accept that there were shortcomings in information-provision and this made the disruption even more frustrating for passengers," said Mr Horton.

"We've already identified some short-term measures to improve this but will be working with industry partners on whom we rely for much of the information to achieve more significant improvements."

The problems came just a week after Southeastern announced price-hikes of up to 12.8 per cent for ticket prices, a move blasted by Mr Gale as "disgraceful".

He said: "I questioned Mr Horton as to the



**DISRUPTION:** Southeastern rail services were badly affected during the recent snow that swept the county

justification for a wholly unacceptable fare increase heaped on top of three years of already above-average increases.

"The response appears to be that 'We have to take a market judgement', which seems to me to be a euphemism for 'We've got a captive clientele in east Kent, so we are holding them to ransom to pay for the high-speed trains and for reductions in subsidy'."

Southeastern's franchise of the county's routes is under review and could be lost in 2012.

Mr Gale said: "I have made it clear to Southeastern that I will personally oppose any renewal of their franchise."

"Whether that view will find support in the House or within the transport department I know not, but one thing is certain: we cannot continue in this climate of 'more for less' payment."

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Two saved in chip-pan fire

AN ELDERLY man was taken to hospital after battling a chip-pan blaze at his home in Margate.

A chip-pan full of hot oil accidentally left on the hob caught fire as the man and his wife sat down to dinner at their bungalow in Ramsgate Road.

Two fire-engines from Margate were called just before 5.30pm on Thursday last week and tackled the flames with a hose while wearing breathing apparatus.

Adrian Hawkins, Margate crew manager, said: "Luckily the elderly residents had working smoke-alarms and managed to get out of the property, but the man had tried to return to the kitchen to take the chip-pan off the hob and suffered smoke-inhalation."

"He received oxygen from crews at the scene before being taken to hospital. It takes a short space of time for a pan to overheat."

"Sadly, we often see people getting hurt as a result of these types of incidents, which are all preventable."

### Memorial garden delayed

A MEMORIAL service to mark the opening of a commemorative garden for the victims of serial-killer Peter Tobin has been postponed at the request of the father of one of the murdered girls.

The bodies of Vicky Hamilton, 15, and Dinah McNicol, 18, were found at Tobin's former home in Margate in November 2007.

A memorial garden was due to be opened in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church, Margate, on Thursday last week.

However, due to the heavy snow in Scotland, where Ms Hamilton's father lives, the service has been postponed until the New Year.

### Don't miss carol concert

YOU can get into the Christmas spirit this evening (Wednesday) when the Federation of Ramsgate Grammar Schools hosts a concert.

Clarendon House and Chatham House schools come together for a musical showdown at Holy Trinity Church in Broadstairs.

Starting at 7pm, more than 100 performers will take to the stage to sing choral classics and Christmas carols, with many of the schools' ensembles playing.

Tickets are £6 for adults or £3 for concessions and are available from both music departments and on the door.

## Scheme is living proof recycling cooking oil is worth the effort

LEFTOVER cooking oil is being recycled in record amounts in Margate.

Residents have taken more than 6,000 litres of old cooking oil to the recycling centre at Manston Road, Margate, since the launch of the Living Fuels scheme in March 2009.

Daniel Gillert, Living Fuels commercial manager, said: "This is a fantastic achievement for recyclers in Margate as the site has become one of our best-performing in the region for waste vegetable oil."

"With the amount of oil we've collected in this area alone, we can produce enough electricity to power one 20-watt lightbulb in every property in Thanet for 21 hours - that's 64,000 homes."

The company has installed a second collection tank to cope with demand. Once collected, the oil is refined into a biofuel and used to generate green electricity.

Nick Chard, Kent County Council environment cabinet member, said: "Thank you to all Margate residents who recycle at the site for making the initiative such a success."



**RECYCLING CENTRE:** Living Fuels collects old cooking oil to be recycled and used in biofuel

"Recycling waste vegetable oil benefits the environment, and to know it's used to produce green electricity is a wonderful bonus."

The KCC recycling centre at Manston Road is open from 8am to 4.30pm Monday to Saturday and 9am to 4pm Sundays and bank holidays.

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# Thanet's Live Music Scene



## Where & When

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Broadstairs 01843 861108

Thursday 16th December  
**Rich Phillips**

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street,  
Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 17th December  
**Lead gremlin**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Saturday 18th December  
**Surf Dude**

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,  
Broadstairs 01843 861108

Saturday 18th December  
**Crazy Train**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Friday 23rd December  
**Denny & Paul**

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street,  
Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 24th December  
**Captain Mildred**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Friday 24th December  
**EK1**

Bradstow Mill, 125 High Street,  
Broadstairs 01843 861108

Sunday 26th December  
**Bread & Butter**

The Red Lion, 1 King Street,  
Ramsgate 01843 586713

Thursday 30th December  
**Sarah Banks**

The New Inn, 2 Delf Street,  
Sandwich 01304 612335

Friday 31st December  
**Purity**

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# Five go to London in fight against school sport cuts

■ BY FLORENCE TENNENT

FIVE young ambassadors added the isle's voice to the thousands of pupils protesting the Government's decision to cut funding for School Sport Partnerships.

Daniel Ashworth from Ursuline College, Hollie-Anna Sheppard from the Marlowe Academy, Lacey Hinson from St Georges and Paul Ayres and Kerry Boyd from Hartsdown Technology College travelled to Westminster on Tuesday last week to deliver a petition of more than 3,800 signatures to Downing Street, protesting the spending review that would see all £162 million funding for SSPs cut.

## Opportunities

The partnerships link schools and community sports clubs, introducing young people to diverse sports opportunities.

Volunteering by young people in Thanet has risen since the SSP was founded in 2005 and 34 per cent more pupils participate in at least two hours of PE a week.

The five students were met in Westminster by Roger Gale, Thanet North MP, and Laura Sandys, Thanet South MP, before posing for a photo with Denise Lewis, gold-winning Olympic heptathlon athlete and supporter of the Save School Sport campaign.

One of the group said: "This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and we are really pleased



UNITED: From left, isle students Lacey Hinson, Hollie-Anna Sheppard, Kerry Boyd, Daniel Ashworth and Paul Ayres

we have had the chance to go to Westminster and express our opinions to MPs today.

"If you feel passionate about something, then you fight for what you believe in and we feel very strongly that the Government should reconsider their decision."

Joining pupils from schools around the country, the Thanet ambassadors presented a combined petition of more than 500,000 signatures to Downing Street.

The group member said: "We hope the protest will create further publicity and enable the nation to see the amount of support there is for this campaign. We care about our own sporting opportunities and we care about the future generations of young people who may not get the chances we have had."

Hilary Farmiloe, Thanet School Sport Partnership, accompanied the students.

She said: "PE and sport can have a really positive impact on young people's lives. You only need to see these Young Ambassadors today to know that sport can be used as a vehicle to empower young people."

"The Thanet pupils were very keen to attend the protest because they feel passionately about their own and other children's sporting opportunities. They came because sport has given them the confidence, skills and self-belief to take a genuine leading role in this campaign."

The Government is reconsidering its proposals in light of the public protest and a decision is expected before Christmas on whether the full cuts will go ahead.

## Planners give new pool the go-ahead

THANET council has approved plans for a new swimming pool in Ramsgate.

The 25-metre pool, training pool, spa facility, café and atrium will be built on the side of Ramsgate sports centre at no cost to the taxpayer.

Instead, the £3.48 million investment will be taken on by Thanet Leisure Force, which manages the pools in Ramsgate and Margate.

The council will act as guarantor and provide a £200,000 repayable loan to cover initial costs.

Work is expected to start in the spring, with the complex opening in spring 2012. The current Ramsgate pool will remain open until the new premises are completed.

## Garages fall short in safety checks

HALF of the garages visited by health-and-safety inspectors on the isle have been found to be below standard.

Of 20 companies visited, nine were given notices to make improvements and one given a prohibition notice for unprotected work equipment.

Businesses were found to have unsafe wiring, poorly-maintained machinery and unsuitable premises checks.

Chris Wells, councillor for community services, said: "This is something the council takes seriously, particularly when you consider that in the last five years there have been 24 deaths and over 8,000 injuries in the vehicle-repair industry."

"Anything we can do to stop that figure rising in Thanet has to be a good thing."

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# yourlocalinterview

## QUESTION & ANSWER

### SANDRA HART



**Q** Can you start by introducing yourself?

**A** I'm Sandra Hart. For the past decade I have owned a long-established hair-dressing business in Northdown Road, where I previously served my apprenticeship and managed a team of workers for an earlier 25 years. I've spent my personal life living and bringing up a family locally, and my working life looking after the needs of clients and staff.

During my teenage years I lived in Upper Dane Road, and as an adult in Victoria Avenue. I therefore know Dane Valley ward through living, growing up and taking on new responsibilities in the area.

**Q** Why did you run for last year's Dane Valley by-election?

**A** I was appalled that the Conservative councillor who eventually resigned had spent so much time in Central America. Dane Valley needed determined and well-organised representation and I am fortunate to have the backing of a very strong team based at our local Labour office here in Margate who provide just that kind of service for local people.

**Q** What has been your experience of the council so far?

**A** After what felt like a rather intimidating welcome from many members of the leading [Conservative] group of the council at the count, and further negative events and comments

made during my first week at the council, I decided to ignore these matters – 'stick with it and soldier on'. Officers of the council could not have been more helpful and residents have been absolutely superb.

**Q** Do you plan to stand for re-election?

**A** I've already been re-selected by Labour for the Dane Valley ward in the 2011 district elections, along with fellow prospective candidates John Edwards and Will Scobie. We are already working very much as a team.

**Q** What are the most important issues facing Margate?

**A** Finance cuts have to be the number one issue. They affect everything and everyone in a town like Margate. The voluntary sector will suffer, too. It's a very worrying time.

**Q** Are there any campaigns you're involved in now?

**A** Shortly before my election I was very active in the campaign to save Northdown House and I'm delighted to see this public asset at the edge of Dane Valley ward now back in use. With colleagues during my election campaign, I was able to get a large and prominent fire-damaged site at the centre of the ward cleared of rubbish and I'm pleased to see a planning application has been made to restore the buildings. Highways issues appear to dominate at present.

The main Millmead and College Roads run straight through Dane Valley ward past two schools, and speeding along them has meant involving the police. I've also been involved in discussions regarding parking and access at a school, which has been proving extremely problematic.

**Q** Has it been difficult balancing your commitments?

**A** I have supported my husband for almost a decade with his work as both a district and a county councillor, so I knew what I was getting into. I also run a business and I am involved in voluntary work. Fortunately, I am also very lucky to be able to find time to look after grandchildren – you know the old saying about busy people!

**Q** What do you feel you have achieved in a year?

**A** I have dealt with lots of issues affecting individual residents and had many successes. I've managed to help with housing, rubbish, debt, troublesome neighbours and highways issues. These personal interventions have given me the most satisfaction as a councillor.

**Q** Do you compete with your husband Clive Hart, Thanet's Labour group leader?

**A** Clive leads our group very well at Thanet council. I'll let you guess who's in charge at home!



A year after winning the Dane Valley ward by-election, Labour councillor Sandra Hart speaks to **Florence Tennent** about tackling rude councillors and the satisfaction she gets from working with the community

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## Lily's litter battle goes into schools

HUNDREDS of primary-school children from 12 Isle schools are this month being visited by Thanet council waste and recycling officers who will ask them to vow not to drop litter.

The children will be told about the negative effects of littering and then have a look through some of the rubbish left outside their own school.

At the end of the assembly the children will be asked to sign a pledge promising not to drop litter; this will be displayed in their school and the council offices.

The campaign is inspired by eight-year-old Lily Mandlark, from Margate, who wrote to the council complaining of litter on her beach and became the face of the council's Lily Loves anti-litter campaign.

Martin Wise, councillor for environmental services, said: "If we get children signing up to the idea of playing their part and not dropping rubbish, then that's the first step."

## Santa's coming to a street near you

CHRISTMAS is coming and the Rotary Club sleigh will be out spreading music and good cheer on the streets of Ramsgate.

Santa and his flashing musical sleigh will be collecting for the QEQM Hospital League of Friends at stations throughout the town in the run-up to Christmas, starting at 6pm in Cliffsend tonight (Wednesday) and finishing at 6pm in Newington on Wednesday, December 22.

# Remember our garden visitors as winter bites

PEOPLE are being urged to help garden birds survive the winter.

With the seasonal chill having come earlier than usual this year, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) says that some birds may already be struggling to find enough food to replenish their energy supplies.

Sophie McCallum, the RSPB's media officer in the South East, said: "With the harsh winter weather we're experiencing, the wild birds in our gardens will need a little extra help."

### Colourful

"The insects, berries and seeds they would usually feast on become off-limits if there is frost and snow. The food and water you put out for them provides the nutrients essential to their survival."

"There is an upside for people, too. The chilly conditions may mean that rare birds you don't often see until later in winter will appear earlier, as they use our gardens as a safe haven."

"Look out for colourful species like the siskin and the waxwing that will add a bit of winter cheer."

■ BY MATHEW BEECH

To help their feathered friends survive, homeowners can leave out food such as mealworms, fatballs, crushed peanuts, dried fruit, seeds and grain to compensate for birds' natural food, which may be covered by snow and ice.

The RSPB is asking people to follow a bird winter-survival plan that will help wildlife during the harshest weather.

This includes putting out feed regularly and hanging feeders for black sunflower seeds, sunflower hearts, sunflower-rich mixes or unsalted peanuts, especially in severe weather.

Leftovers such as grated cheese, porridge oats, soft fruit, unsalted bacon, cooked rice, pasta and the insides of cooked potatoes are also a good source of energy for birds.

It is essential to ensure a supply of fresh water every day – but no antifreeze products must be used – while there should be fruit such as apples and pears for blackbirds, song thrushes and other members of the thrush family.

Food bars or fat hung up or rubbed into the



**HARD TIMES:** With harsh winter weather already upon us, our garden birds are struggling to find food to survive

bark of trees is a great help for treecreepers, goldcrests and other species, while nestboxes will provide roost sites for smaller birds.

For more information on how to help during the winter, visit [www.rspb.org.uk/hfw](http://www.rspb.org.uk/hfw).

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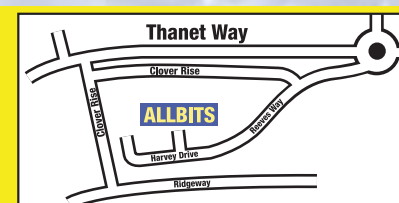
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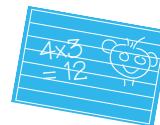


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## BREAK TIME

## PE students learn from ace Federer

MARGATE students got up close to tennis legend Roger Federer on a school trip to the Masters tournament in London.

Twenty-eight Hartsdown Technology College students travelled to The O2 arena in south-east London to watch the world No 2 beat Robin Soderling in straight sets to win a place in the ATP Masters semi-finals.

Jason Jones, head of PE, said: "It was a fantastic atmosphere and the speed of play is breathtaking – much quicker than on television. Federer's backhand was unbelievable."



## Pupils tell the story of first Christmas

YEAR three pupils at St Peter's junior school in Broadstairs invited children from nearby infant schools to watch their Christmas Nativity last week.

Proud parents joined children from Callis Grange and St Mildred's infants schools to watch Mary, Joseph and several wise men tell the story of the birth of Jesus.

## Pop legend passes secrets of his success to students

■ BY FLORENCE TENNENT

EIGHTIES pop icon Howard Jones has shared some of the secrets of his synth-pop success with Broadstairs students.

The platinum-album-selling author of such hits as What Is Love? and New Song took commercial-music students from Christ Church University's Broadstairs campus on a song-writing master-class.

He said: "It was great to be invited to do a master-class with the students. I'm very keen to encourage young people to work on their song-writing skills and to be able to give something back."

"The students were really great. They were a lively and inventive group, with very different styles. I never knew what I was going to hear next."

Still writing, recording and touring, Howard discussed the differences between the music industry now and back when he was gigging in the 80s.

He said: "I believe today's artists need to think about not only how they can be creative with their music, but also how they are going to be creative with the way they get their music out."

"I think it is one of the most exciting times to be an emerging artist because the power can be in your hands – if you are prepared to seize it."

The musical veteran isn't a fan of Saturday-night television. He said: "Shows such as X Factor put out the wrong signal and just create clones of other artists, rather than original



**THE KEY TO SUCCESS:** Musician Howard Jones gives a song-writing master-class at Hartsdown Technology College

performers, which as a country we are brilliant at producing.

"The industry should be nurturing talent, rather than trying to produce another hundred Whitney Houstons."

Mr Jones believes the students are the key to their own success.

He said: "The one piece of advice I can give to

anyone is to realise immediately that it's them, and them alone, that is responsible for generating their musical successes.

"If you wait around for somebody else to do it, you will wait forever. I wish I had twigged that earlier as things would have been a lot less painful and I wouldn't have blamed so many external things."

**SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourthanet@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk).**

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# yourletters



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## YOUR LETTERS

### Latchford's council has failed Thanet

Further to councillor Roger Latchford's letter, the efforts to improve Thanet by the Labour administration from 1995 to 2003 are well documented and even the subject of praise in a press release in May 2004 from a prominent local Conservative.

Unfortunately, however, one of the first things the Conservative council did in 2003 was to cancel all of our successful cross-party working groups which progressed and monitored improvements. This has led to the mess Thanet council finds itself in now.

The 14 neglected shelters in Ramsgate have been taken over by the Ramsgate Society, not Ramsgate Town Council, as asserted by Cllr Latchford.

As the regeneration member, in charge of the handover, he should at least know to whom he gave them!

The fact that they need an immediate £350,000 in refurbishment funds has proved Labour members' warnings on the need for regular proper attention valid.

Similarly, the Nayland Rock and Marine Garden shelters in Margate were renovated under Labour following successful Lottery bids.

I have constantly asked for help with their maintenance and cleaning over the last six years.

In the last week, Team Green (volunteers I asked to help) are making some attempt to rectify their appalling state.

Cllr Latchford's alleged "rolling programme" was also of little use to other shelters in Cliftonville right through to Birchington.

Vandals don't cause rust and peeling paint, but if they see the council doesn't care they will add to the damage.

The warnings that the newly-renovated lavatory at West Bay had its roof damaged by roller-blades in 2003 also fell on Tory deaf ears.

Time after time, councillor Tom King and I asked for help until it was all too late.

Many of the lavatories my committee had renovated prior to 2003 are now in a very sorry state and the lavatory beside the Granville in Ramsgate was next on our list for replacement. Still no sign seven years later!

On the wider regeneration front, tourism in Thanet is now mostly left to volunteers. The delays at Dreamland, under Cllr Latchford's watch, could mean we lose the Labour government's Sea Change funding.

The Ramsgate Model Village, motor and several other museums and Margate caves have already been lost.

Some of the hotels and businesses which had Labour government grants are constantly the source of my questioning at Thanet council.

When are we going to see a return for the taxpayers' money – or in a few cases an actual return of

## yourblogger

Message to Southeastern Trains – commuters are also taxpayers, says Trevor Moss...



SO THERE I was, on a high-speed train, having got on, on time, at Folkestone West and heading for London.

But sure enough and yet again, found myself at Omph while sitting outside Ashford station waiting for the connecting units to trundle down the track from Canterbury. The outcome was another delayed connection at the platform.

I question whether Ashford station platform is the right place for rolling stock to be connected, particularly Hitachi Class 395 rolling stock.

The number of computer crashes as a result of cobbling two trains together makes a joke of the premium-fare high-speed service.

Apparently no changes to the timetable are anticipated to provide for independent trains to run down the line and back from their respective branches until 2012, the same year that London Olympics authorities plan to commandeer all these trains for weeks, with Southeastern's consent, to run between St Pancras and Stratford, to the detriment of regular users.

Anyway, I dutifully completed the questionnaire given to me en route asking for my views on Southeastern.

It was a pathetic attempt to placate travellers by asking for their opinions after the lack of services due to the wintry weather of the previous week.

The half-baked questions were not the ones I really wanted to ask or answer.

Like, how on Earth does Southeastern justify the

hike in fares by up to 12 per cent when people are getting 0 per cent salary reviews and an unreliable service?

If we were in France, we'd all be refusing to pay fare increases. In fact, in France, there would be a week of demonstrations where people would storm the trains and refuse to pay fares at all. Now there's a thought.

Of course, we know what the cop-out statement on fare rises is going to say: "But the Government has reduced subsidies, therefore the traveller has to bear the brunt, not the taxpayer."

Well, Mr Southeastern representative, I am a taxpayer and a commuter, but I don't see any tax rebate coming from the Government in relation to its reduced obligations to fund the rail network.

To cap it all, on the way home, I got to the station to find, yes you've guessed it, that the Folkestone-bound high-speed train was terminated at St Pancras, once more due to technical difficulties.

While waiting for half an hour at a bleak Stratford International I saw four trains head in the direction of St Pancras, but no one at Southeastern thought to turn one of these around to form a replacement service. Eventually, it was standing-room-only on the next train.

With the level of criticism Southeastern is getting, from Kent MPs to the daily customer, this company isn't the future of travel in Kent but will be recognised as part of the failed history of privatisation of the rail network in this county. The sooner Southeastern loses its franchise the better.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, contact the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above.

If you want to be the next Thanet blogger, then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of about 550 words) and email it to the editor.

And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk).

the money?

The Loop and improved train services were also part of an active Labour council's remit, as was the campaign for Surestart, an accessible NHS and a viable but green Manston airport.

The Kent Innovation Centre and indeed the Thanet Campus, Saga and other 'new' employers 'happened' under Labour. (Cllr Latchford really needs to do some research before he puts pen to paper.)

Westwood Cross was to complement and support our town centres using money from business rates (LAGBI). I have lost count of the amount of times I asked the blank-faced Conservative cabinet for some for Margate.

The global collapse of capitalism is probably very distressing for Cllr Latchford, but it is no excuse for the failure to look after Thanet properly over the last seven years.

**Cllr Iris Johnston (Labour)**  
Margate Central ward

### Ease the grip of our greedy supermarkets

The bad weather predictably caused problems with food supplies to the county as well as the rest of the country.

For three days, Co-op stores in Kent were without milk because it is delivered daily from Northampton.

Once we had local dairy farms and dairies that provided a more reliable service to the shopping public, but that is no more.

The rampant greed and stupidity of the big supermarket chains has got farmers and producers by the throats and wiped out local producers. So in times of stress we all suffer and go without.

Supermarkets today pay farmers less per litre of milk than they did 20 years ago. But has the price for the shopper dropped? No! It keeps rising to put money into shareholders' pockets.

Other sections of the food industry are also being badly hit. I am told that because of the bad weather one cauliflower-grower in the county, to fulfil his contract with a big supermarket or possibly go out of business, is having to import cauliflowers from Spain.

The mafia-style grip of the big supermarkets on the farming and food industry must be removed or things will only get worse and the British farming industry will soon be gone forever and we will be totally reliant on imports, and food shops will be empty on regularly.

**Roger Arnold**  
Herne Bay

### Buy local food, don't just pay lip service

Food inevitably occupies our minds more than usual at this time of

year. The countryside provides more than just an attractive backdrop to the festivities – it also puts the food on our table. But is it the Kent countryside that is putting the food on your table?

With a bit of effort, we can all direct more of our grocery budget towards local businesses which keep the county's rural economy alive and manage the countryside that we all enjoy.

The benefit to those who buy locally is not only great-tasting, healthy food but also the knowledge that we are supporting the local economy and reducing food miles.

Only 19 per cent of this country's food outlets are non-supermarket, and just 3 per cent of those are farm shops.

Of course attempts to buy locally can be frustrating. Some shops make a token gesture – the procurement of a few local items to justify a marketing slogan.

So helping encourage good intentions to become reality will require some pester-power. Ask where the food you are buying comes from.

Please also support farmers' markets – a great source of local food – and investigate your local farm shop and direct farm sales of turkeys and other meat.

In the run-up to Christmas and beyond, please use your buying power to make a difference.

**Judith Norris, chairwoman, Kent branch**  
Country Land & Business Association

### Kentish produce for tee at tournament

The story about the sandwich being created to commemorate The Open golf tournament in the town of Sandwich caught my eye.

But why stop at sandwiches? How about a full Kentish meal for players and supporters – Kentish apples, strawberries and cherries all have a great reputation.

**Sarah Bright**  
by email

### Hidden agenda of an insurance scandal

How interesting that while insurers continue to swamp the media with stories perpetuating the myth of the compensation culture, the media has barely mentioned the House of Commons Transport Committee inquiry into the cost of motor insurance.

A cynic might be forgiven for thinking that this is because insurers don't want any attention focused on insurance premiums which have rocketed in the past couple of years out of all proportion to their own 'fudged' statistics on the supposed greater cost of claims.

The insurers blame the lawyers, yet legal costs have been fixed for the vast majority of road-traffic accident claims since 2003.

And significantly reduced costs were agreed with the insurance industry only six months ago to a point where, frankly, they cannot go any lower without effectively leaving innocent victims to either pay their own legal fees or fend for themselves.

Furthermore, insurers receive substantial income in referral fees themselves. These come from credit hire companies for passing on details of their own innocent policy-holders who have suffered road-traffic accidents, and from solicitors to whom insurers 'sell' their own innocent policy-holders' claims.

It is a scandal of national proportions that an insurance industry which receives a guaranteed income stream in the form of compulsory third-party insurance – and receives referral fees for effectively encouraging people to claim for their road-traffic injury – should be allowed to clobber innocent motorists with premium increases which they then try to blame on everyone else in the market but themselves.

**Neille Ryan**  
Furley Page Solicitors

### Leave Space for Nik

Well done to Nik Turner and his band Space Ritual for their show at the West Coast in Margate.

Speaking to the former Hawkwind legend, it seemed he had driven all day from his home in Wales through the snow.

Now that is the dedication we expect from a true rock'n'roll space warrior. Best gig of the year – yes!

**Jenny Topham**  
by email



## yourlocal eating out guide

Advertise your venue on in the next guide and [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk) –  
the Kent local search directory - Telephone: 01303 817150

# A taste of something a little bit different

### ■ The Grove Ferry Inn

THE Grove Ferry Inn is one of the most appealing pubs in the area when it comes to food, drink, location and a piece of the unusual – especially at Christmas.

The eatery offers live music every month, featuring local acoustic acts, folk, soul and jazz.

The venue also has a ferry-boat service, running trips up and down the river from the bottom of the garden.

The seasonal menu is now available, with bookings being taken for Christmas Day itself.

It really is the perfect place to cuddle up in front of a roaring log-fire, which is lit at midday and carries on into the night.

Mulled cider, country walks and a Christmas menu make it a great place to linger with friends and family, while a market stall selling locally-sourced goods and Christmas gifts is another attraction.

The menu is all sourced from local suppliers and food is cooked fresh to order.

Customers can even bring their own homegrown vegetables and exchange them for vouchers for food.

The pub's butcher's block, which offers the best fresh meat, is growing in popularity, while a light bite for picnics and the expansive



garden are also proving popular with visitors looking for something a little different.

The pub's sister venue, The Wiremill Inn in Lingfield, East Grinstead, has won Best Free House Of The Year and Best Food Pub in The Publican awards.

Everything about the Grove Ferry has a twist to it – some ideas look crazy, but they all seem to work. And that is why it is such a hit.

**The Grove Ferry, Grove Ferry Road, Upstreet, Canterbury, CT3 4BP**

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Dessert: Jam roly-poly.

Telephone: 01843 867764.

#### Acorn Inn

Starter: Smoked salmon and prawns served with a cardinal dressing and salad.

Main course: Cannon of lamb fried with a redcurrant-and-port sauce.

Dessert: Brioche bread-and-butter pudding.

Telephone: 01843 841196

#### The Swan at Westgate

Starter: Seafood chowder.

Main course: Tournedos Rossini – a prime fillet steak served on a crouton, topped with pâté and finished with a red-wine sauce.

Dessert: Apple crumble and custard.

Telephone: 01843 831401.

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**GLUED TO OUR SETS:** Talked about TV this year has been (from above, clockwise) *Mad Men*; the Three Leaders' Debate; Facebook movie, *The Social Network*; Ann Widdecombe on *Strictly Come Dancing*; and the much-anticipated *Tron Legacy*

# A year to remember...

## We look at the entertainment highlights, and lowlights, that made up 2010

IT'S been a funny old year.

A TV dietician learnt to faint on cue and Anne Widdecombe started to find herself liked by the general public.

In May, it seemed for a while after the general election that the country was in some kind of strange limbo.

For 48 hours no-one knew quite who the Liberal Democrats would side with and the media went into a state of speculative frenzy.

UKIP leader Nigel Farage found it all too much and even had an election day plane crash, but very soon it was back to some kind of normality and Britain faced up to the cuts and the recession.

Politics did give us the TV event of the year with the three leader's debates, though.

If the hype after debate one on ITV was to be believed, the Second Coming had taken place in the form of Nick Clegg.

On reflection, it's funny how things change so fast.

On the internet Twitter continued to thrive. The website is so much more than many first thought, and comes into its own when Prime Ministers insult northern pensioners, for example.

The site undoubtedly now helps shape public opinion.

As well as being highly amusing, Bigot-gate, guest starring Rochdale's Gillian Duffy, gave us one of the most unforgettable images of the year: Gordon Brown in a radio studio with his head in his hands, as he finally realised that, for him at least, the game was up.

For me, the TV show of the year was *Mad Men*, which deservedly won big at the awards ceremonies across the pond.

The drama set in a 1960s New York advertising agency may not sound thrilling but if you haven't acquainted yourself with this show then indulge yourself. If it's not the classiest show I've seen on TV then I couldn't tell you what is.

On BBC Two, *The Trip* breathed a bit of life into Steve Coogan's career. A bit repetitive maybe, but never has anyone had so much fun watching two middle-aged men bitch at each other over dinner doing impressions of Michael Caine.

Doctor Who welcomed Matt Smith into the role, but fans remain sceptical after the phenomenally successful David Tennant era.

A decent Christmas special is needed to con-

vince the public Smith's really the man for the T.A.R.D.I.S.

Matters Whovian were not helped when the Daleks were given a camp makeover, decked out with bigger skirts and bright colours. It was more a case of "DOES MY BUM LOOK BIG IN THIS?" than "EXTERMINATE!"

Much better from the Beeb was *Sherlock*, with the brilliantly named Benedict Cumberbatch as the super sleuth.

The show was a marvellous take on Holmes, and far better than Guy Richie's so-so film adaptation.

Of course none of us should ever forget Phil Mitchell's unlikely crack habit in *EastEnders*.

Watching a grizzled angry man rifle through a rubbish bin in search of more drugs has never been so gripping.

The XX deservedly scooped the Mercury music prize with their moody gothic rock and Stevie Wonder showed the hipsters how to really do it at Glastonbury with a storming set.

Warpaint injected a fresh wave of sexy, female angst into rock, as part of tripped-out grunge revival of sorts and the various X Factor rejects and winners from past years scored big hits despite releasing songs that were purely piffle, with Jedward chief culprits.

The show has now become a self-fulfilling prophecy, with the losers and the winner top ten fixtures year round, and the Cowell's masterplan complete.

Next stop America for the X Factor juggernaut and Cheryl Cole, who in 2010 really

cemented herself as the nation's sweetheart.

The year saw another glut of comic book movies hit the big screen but none were really too great.

Pick of the bunch was *Iron Man II*, but that did nothing that the first *Iron Man* hadn't done a lot better already.

*Toy Story 3* was a winner though, and proved that Pixar can still sprinkle their magic on the industry.

The year previously James Cameron's *Avatar* proved 3D is here to stay and in 2010 a possibly jealous George Lucas announced that he was going to milk his cash cow once more and release his *Star Wars* films in 3D. Even die-hard fans groaned.

The best all-out blockbuster surely came from Christopher Nolan.

*Inception* was bold, smart and brimming with ideas and featured a fine performance from Leonard Di Caprio. OK, so many, me included, had to re-examine the plot after leaving their seats, but there's nothing wrong with having your mind blown once in a blue moon.

Unsurprisingly the *Harry Potter* film series continued, and many Muggles proclaimed it best of the films so far.

*The Social Network* was a surprise, however. A film about the origin of Facebook had me gripped and is one to see on DVD next year.

We end the year with *Tron Legacy* upon us. Early reviews have been good and if nothing else, it should be a true visual treat.

I end, regrettably, on a sombre note.

The Government's cuts will continue to make news in 2011 and many will hit home in the arts world in the near future.

Make no mistake, now is the time to get out and support your arts venues or you may find that your local theatre, gallery, cinema or arts group simply ceases to be.

Times are tough, but try and put some pounds by for a ticket or two if you can.

Happy Christmas... and stay entertained!





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23<sup>rd</sup> December 2010 - 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2011

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Opening Night Offer: 2 for 1 on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
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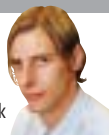


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## PROFESSOR GREEN

Monday, December 20, Onyx Nightclub, Folkestone



MOBO award-winning rapper Professor Green heads up a night of dance, R'n'B and urban music at Onyx.

Professor Green's career has hit dizzy heights this year with massive chart success with the Inxs-sampling hit 'I Need You Tonight', which led to him teaming up with Lily Allen for Just Be Good To Green.

He's also worked with Mark Ronson, Tinchy Strider, Chipmunk, Emile Sande and Labrinth, and scored hits with songs Monster and Jungle.

The night features two exclusive shows. It all starts at 6pm with an under 18's event where Professor Green will

headline a line up including Gracious K, Funky Dee and local talent, the artists Breeding Sequence and Jack Lumber.

At 10pm, it's a party for the over 18's when After Party kicks off with another exclusive performance from the man himself with a local support line up including Altered Mind State.

Tickets for the first show are £8 in advance or £10 on the door, and then £5 in advance or £7 on the door for the second show and are available from Onyx's website at [www.onyxnightclub.co.uk](http://www.onyxnightclub.co.uk).

Alternatively call the club on 01303 252200.



## THE RED HERRINGS

Saturday, December 18, The Salvation Army Hall, Portland Road, Hythe



THE fabulous Red Herrings will be making a long awaited return to Hythe for a Christmas show.

The Christmas with the Red Herrings concert will put you in the festive mood, as the talented youngsters play a variety of music.

All the members of the band attended either the Harvey Grammar or the Folkestone School for Girls prior to entering university.

Fred Smith, who plays bass in the band, said: "We really are looking forward to getting back together again. The last time we

played at the Salvation Army, it was a sell out, and the venue itself is both warm, inviting and acoustically good."

Richard Carroll, organiser, said: "These young people are to be admired, their musicality is outstanding and their easy listening jazz is a joy to listen too. I would invite anyone who would like their children to take up music to bring them along, they will be inspired."

The band will play at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 for adults and £1 for children.

Call the box office on 01303 268354 to get yours.

## ALADDIN

Until January 3, Granville Theatre, Ramsgate



WATCH out for the evil Abanazzar and the mischevious Genie of the Lamp in a re-telling of the classic family pantomime in Ramsgate.

Pantomime is an ideal opportunity to introduce children to the delights of live theatre and for adults to recall childhood memories of trips to Pantoland.

The well-known and much-loved tale is a family favourite and once again the cast at the Granville Theatre will give it their own special treatment.

Aladdin is a boy whose mother is a simple poor washer woman known as Widow Twankey.

They live a simple life in the kingdom along with Wishee Washee their assistant, but when Aladdin falls in love with Princess Badroubadour, the emporer's daughter and a magic lamp is discovered the adventure really begins.

This year's production will feature many colourful scenes, spectacular effects, live music and dancing.

The cast this year is a fantastic mix of local talent and visiting professional performers.

Tickets are priced £11 to £15, concessions available. Group deals are available.

Call 01843 591750 to book or visit the website at [www.granvilletheatre.com](http://www.granvilletheatre.com). All times and performance dates are also on the site.



## BAD MANNERS

Wednesday, December 15, Quarterhouse, Folkestone



YOU may bust a blood vessel witnessing Bad Manners in action.

The famed two tone ska act, fronted by the indomitable singer Buster Bloodvessel, will be stomping on stage at the Quarterhouse.

They'll be rattling through their famous hits Lip Up Fatty, Special Brew, Can Can, My Girl Lollipop, Just a Feeling and many more.

The band were chart regulars in the 80s and courted controversy on many occasions with their raucous antics on stage and off. They were known for brash performances and legendary live shows and this show will have you skanking until you can skank no more.

The band are always well-supported in the area due to Buster Bloodvessel's ties with Margate and performances at the Lounge on the Farm festival near Canterbury.

Support on the night comes from Max Splodge, hero of Splodgenessabounds and Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps fame, alongside a local ska band and some bonafide solid ska selectors filling in the gaps.

Tickets are £16 each. Buy online at [www.quarterhouse.co.uk](http://www.quarterhouse.co.uk) or by calling 01303 858500.



## CHASE AND STATUS

Friday, December 17, Brake Hall, East Hill, Ashford



THE versatile electronic producers have supported The Prodigy and played at festivals including Glastonbury and V this year.

The drum and bass stars, whose real names are Saul Milton and Will Kennard, have been booked by Intimacy Promotions to play a 90-minute set, which will also feature MC Rage.

Organiser Joshua Heyburn said: "They will be playing everything that everyone knows as well as tracks from their new album which will be out soon. It's going to be huge."

Chase & Status' first album went to number two in the UK dance album charts and was voted the best album at the 2009 Drum and Bass awards.

The duo's recent tracks, End Credits featuring Plan B and Let You Go featuring Mali, did well in the singles chart.

Their support acts in Ashford will include electronic newcomers You And What Army, local dubstep DJ Mr Strong and Kent electronic pop rock band LightsGoBlue, now on tour in the United States with Enter Shikari. Doors are open from 8pm until 11pm, over 14s only. Tickets are £15 and available from HMV stores in Ashford, Canterbury, Folkestone and Maidstone. Or book online at [www.seetickets.com](http://www.seetickets.com) or [www.hmv.com](http://www.hmv.com).





# Reader Holidays

KOS 51

## Winter Warmer Party

Warner Bembridge Coast Hotel, Isle of Wight - Over 40s only

**Friday, January 14, 2011**

Our Winter Warmer Party - for over 40s only - is at Bembridge Coast, Warner's luxury hotel on the Isle of Wight. Enjoy quality accommodation, good food, live nightly entertainment and a Free Bar.

**INCLUDES:** Free Bar 3.30pm to 11pm Friday and 12noon to 11pm Saturday (& Sunday) - house beers, spirits & mixers, wine by the glass • 2 dinners and 2 breakfasts • Entertainment every night • En-suite Ambassador room with TV, tea/coffee tray - upgrades available • Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna • Return Car Ferry

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or Fridays, January 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2011 (3 or 7 nights)

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**PRICE INCLUDES:**

- 3, 4 or 7 nights sharing a twin or double-bedded en-suite room
- Breakfast & dinner each day
- At least 2 nights' entertainment (4 nights on a 7-night stay)



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4 NIGHTS £115pp  
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Quote BST-KOS (Suncliff)

## Mamma Mia Party

Warner Bembridge Coast Hotel, Isle of Wight - Over 50s only

**Friday, February 25, 2011**

Join us for a party where the name of the game is fun. We're rekindling the 70s & 80s when Abba's songs were on everyone's lips.

**PRICE INCLUDES:** FREE drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday, 12noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday. Includes house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee • Dinners & Breakfasts • Mamma Mia movie screening • Abba Tribute Band • Variety entertainment • En-suite Ambassador room with TV, tea/coffee tray - upgrades available • Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna • Return Car Ferry

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## Mamma Mia Party

Warner Bodelwyddan Castle, North Wales - Over 50s only

**Friday, March 25, 2011**

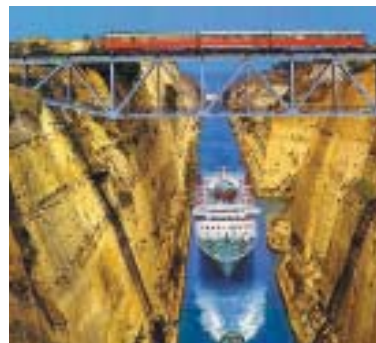
Join us for a unique Mamma Mia Party - for over 50s only - in beautiful North Wales. Warner's Bodelwyddan Castle Hotel will resound to the sights and sounds of Abba. Enjoy free drinks and nightly entertainment including a screening of Mamma Mia the Movie and an Abba tribute act.

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## Menton Lemon Festival & Nice Carnival

Escorted Holiday by Rail - afternoon departure from London



Departs February 20, 2011

Join us for a colourful break on the French and Italian Rivas including visits to Menton Lemon Festival Garden of Lights and Nice Carnival Flower Parade. Enjoy Free Drinks every night at the hotel in Diano Marina and return rail travel between London and Nice in the south of France.

**INCLUDED:**

- Champagne check-in at London St Pancras • Escorted throughout • Afternoon departure on Eurostar to Lille
- 1 night hotel B&B in Lille • TGV rail travel to Nice
- 4 nights in Diano Marina at the Piccolo Hotel with 4 buffet breakfasts & 4 dinners with free wine & water PLUS Free tea/coffee daily. PLUS nightly Free bar - house wine/beers/spirits 6pm to 12midnight
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# WIN a wonderful weekend in Boulogne sur Mer

with *The France Show 2011*

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Five runners up will also receive a pair of tickets to the show.

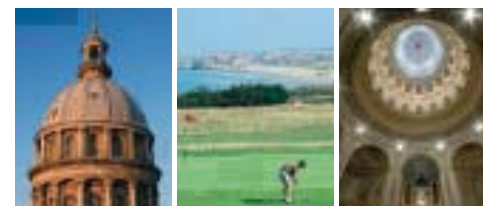
**TO ENTER**, send your answer to [kentnews@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:kentnews@kosmedia.co.uk) with the subject: France Show Competition. Alternatively answers on a postcard to: France Show Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Include your name, address and telephone number.

**Q. What is the name of P&O's newest ship?**

- A) Spirit of Dover
- B) Spirit of Britain
- C) Spirit of Calais

The closing date for entries is 5th January 2011. For our full terms and conditions please visit [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk).

T&Cs: Prize to Boulogne must be taken before 30 September 2011. It excludes all Bank Holidays and is subject to space availability. The prize is non transferable and cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotional or special offer. The prize includes a ferry crossing with P&O for two passengers and a car. Transfers and fuel are not included. No cash alternative is offered. The VIP visit to the show must be taken from 14-16 January 2011. No purchase necessary. For full T&Cs visit [www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk)



## Boulogne sur Mer

For more information about events in Boulogne and the area: [tourisme@agglo-boulonnais.fr](mailto:tourisme@agglo-boulonnais.fr) [www.tourisme-boulonnais.com](http://www.tourisme-boulonnais.com)

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\*T&Cs: Tickets normally cost £13 on the door – saving £14. Offer expires 13 January 2011. Tickets must be booked in advance. Saving indicated based on door rate. For more information visit [www.thefranceshow.com](http://www.thefranceshow.com). Calls cost 10p per minute from BT landlines, mobile networks may vary.

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# yourmusic

## Xmas presents for music lovers



**A TOP TOUCH:** The Blue Mickey records a rich, crisp sound ideal for making demos

I'll admit that when I first took the Blue Mikey out of its box and plugged it into my iPod touch, I was dubious.

I mean, how good can a microphone you plug into an iPod dock really be?

I was pleasantly surprised.

For a start, it's small and sturdy with a solid hinge that allows it to be best positioned to record whatever it is you need to record.

And the sound it captures is both rich and crisp when you consider the mic's compact size.

The Mikey plus iPod combo turns the already-versatile Touch into the perfect field-recording tool. For journalists wishing to record an interview it's fast and simple, but the recording quality is also good enough for podcasts and perhaps even radio.

With this in mind, the Blue FiRe recording software (downloadable from the App Store) is the way to go.

This free app, written specially to work with the Mikey, is optimised to get the best out of the minuscule microphone and it really does work.

But voice recording is all very well... what about a real challenge?

I'm in a folk band called Los Salvadores, and often at band practice we've used the terrible microphones on our mobiles to record ideas, simply as a memory aid. This works to an extent, as long as all you're trying to capture is a quick snatch of singing or a guitar line here and there. Add in much more and it quickly becomes the sonic equivalent of a muddy puddle.

But recording whole songs with the whole six-piece band would be a powerful writing tool. Could the Mikey be the answer to providing instant reference demos? Could a mic this small really record six instruments with enough clarity and separation to draw meaningful conclusions about a track?

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

I decided to put the mic to the ultimate test, and set up the Mikey-equipped Touch at a practice. I say set up... I launched Blue FiRe, pressed record and left it on a stool.

I was pleasantly surprised by the result. Forget phone microphones, the Mikey is in a different league. I'm not saying you can forgo full-blown studio set-ups quite yet, but if you are a musician needing a fast and convenient audio reference tool, you can do a lot worse (and pay a lot more) than this second-gen Mikey.

And the fun doesn't stop there. Blue added a line input for recording guitars, and the Blue FiRe app includes a number of export options, so you can record a track and send it to a web server to be downloaded and edited in the future.

It's conceivable that you and a number of Mikey-equipped mates could indulge in some pretty high quality online collaborations using nothing more than the plug-in mics and basic editing software.

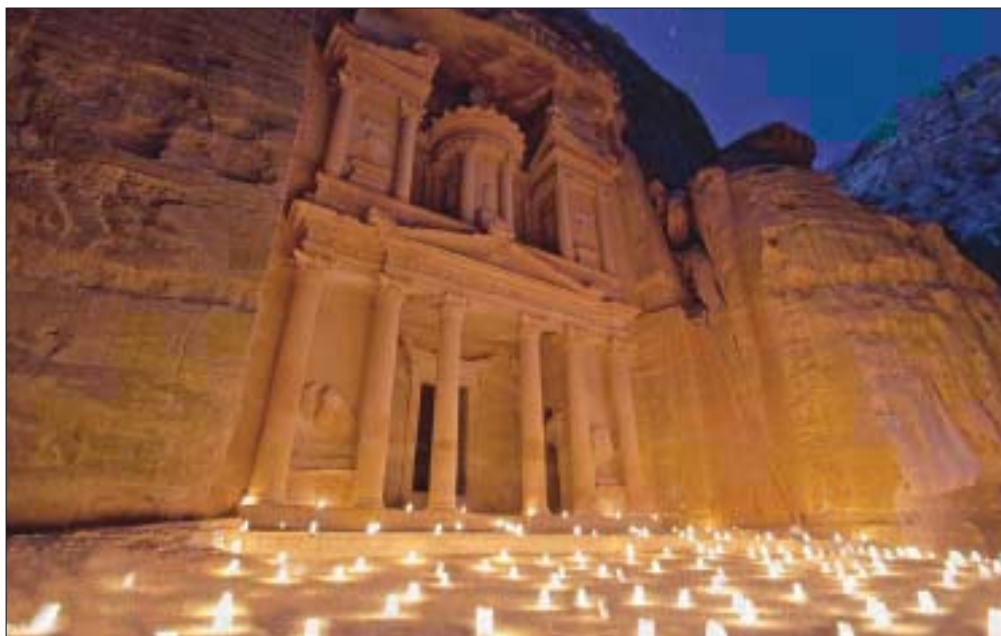
You can get your hands on a Blue Mikey for £59.99 from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

**Revo Ikon DAB, DAB+ and Internet Radio with touch screen and iPod Dock, £279 from Marks & Spencer**

A multi-format digital radio that combines a full colour 3.5" touch-screen, icon-driven user interface, multi-standard radio capabilities and iPod and iPhone docking.

**Morphie Juice Pack Air, £70, from various outlets (pictured)**

The juice pack air is a rechargeable external battery concealed inside a protective case for iPhones. It offers the protection of a hard case while providing virtually twice the battery life of the iPhone.



**ADVENTURE TRAIL:** The Treasury at Petra is well known as the place where the Holy Grail is guarded in Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade.

## yourgetaways

# Follow in the adventurous footsteps of Hergé's Tintin

■ BY CAROLINE DAVISON

IT'S more than 50 years since Tintin, the cub reporter and cartoon character who has since become one of Belgium's best-loved exports, first set foot in Jordan with his faithful lieutenants Captain Haddock and Snowy the dog.

His adventures there provide the backdrop for a film to be released next year by Steven Spielberg and co-director Peter Jackson.

Of course, Jordan tourist wallahs can hardly believe their luck.

One tour operator, On The Go Tours, has won the backing of Moulinart (holder of the rights to the Tintin adventures) to start guided adventure tours taking in the Wadi Rum desert, the Dead Sea, the Red Sea and Petra, and I was lucky enough to experience an early taste of what visitors can expect.

The local agent collected us at Jordan's capital, Amman, with a comfy 25-seater coach and a cool box – a wonderful forethought in this sweltering country.

Our first port of call was the Dead Sea, and en route we spotted the twinkling city lights of Jerusalem.

Our four-star hotel overlooking the beach was clean and spacious with welcoming staff.

Buffet breakfast next morning was such an interesting mix of British, continental and Jordanian fare that I expected to become the first person to sink in the sea's salty water.

Floating in the Dead Sea is a surreal experience. It's so salty that

### FACT FILE: JORDAN

<b>Time difference</b>	+ two hours (GMT)
<b>Capital</b>	Amman
<b>Language</b>	Arabic
<b>Population</b>	6,407,000
<b>Currency</b>	Jordanian dinar
<b>Religion</b>	Islam

Caroline Davison was a guest of On The Go Tours which offers holidays to Jordan from six to 11 days, including the dedicated Tintin tour of Jordan and the Rose City. Prices for the Tintin tour from February 2011 start at £2,029. Some tours are dedicated family tours, and some include a Tintinologist. Reservations: 020 7371 1113 and [www.onthegotours.com](http://www.onthegotours.com).



cuts sting like fury on entry into the water, but once you lie back and shut your eyes it's glorious.

I washed back to the shore like flotsam after keeping my eyes shut for a bit too long – which gave me an incentive to cover myself in Dead Sea mud, provided free on the beach.

We then headed towards our next stop – Little Petra. Dropped off in the hills a few miles from the hotel, we found Arabian horses waiting to transport us the final distance. Guides led us along the Al Hasanat path and two hours later we stopped for a glass of sweet black tea which replenished our energy levels to complete the journey to the hotel.

The next day it was off to the Unesco heritage site of Petra – the Rose City. Featured in the Tintin story Red Sea Sharks, it's well known as the place where the Holy Grail is

guarded in Spielberg's Indiana Jones And The Last Crusade.

After walking just over a mile we emerged between the rock faces to the sight of the Treasury, Petra's most elaborate ruin which is hewn into a sandstone cliff. Wadi Rum didn't disappoint. Dropped off at the edge of the desert, we boarded a Jeep to get into the heart of the landscape, passing sand dunes and camel herders. The area is peaceful, relaxing and breathtakingly beautiful.

The full Tintin tour also includes two days at the Red Sea, with a boat trip to the Pharaon Islands and the chance of snorkelling. There's also a free day to relax before transferring to Amman for the journey home.

No doubt the Spielberg film will be wonderful – but it won't match the thrill of retracing Tintin's route across Jordan.



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## Women Seeking

**KIND** professional clean shaven gent, sought by petite, attractive lady, 51 for discreet daytime relationship. West Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382982 ☞

**ATTRACTIVE** intelligent blonde, full of life, seeks tall, good looking, well built male for uncomplicated fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355275 ☞

**SHY** curvy blonde, 21, likes R&B, clubbing, meals outin, seeks dark, good looking, slim guy who knows how to press the right buttons. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355273 ☞

**CURVY** blue eyed brunette, 23, fun loving and bubbly, likes well nights out but would prefer cosy evenings in with a special fun loving older male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355271 ☞

**PETITE** curvy female, witty and fun, always on the go, many interests WLTm intelligent outgoing male for good times. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355269 ☞

**CURVY** strawberry blonde, 26, baby blue eyes, seeks fun loving tactile guy for friendship, hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355245 ☞

**BEAUTIFUL** slim brunette, big brown eyes, 39, kind and gentle nature, seeks similar kind male for quality/fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355243 ☞

**ATTRACTIVE** female 38, blue eyes, blonde hair, WLTm nice looking slim/well built man to share life, love and special times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355241 ☞

**CURVY** blue eyed blonde, many interests, seeks well built male who's looking for an uncomplicated relationship with a real woman. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355239 ☞

**HAPPY** attractive, versatile black female, 37, 5ft 7ins, slim, likes reading, music, nature, seeks N/S, genuine gent, 35-48 to share life, laughter. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815

**ATTRACTIVE** black lady, 5ft 6ins, black hair, slim, kissable lips, likes walks, horse riding, go karts, seeks professional white male, 35-45, athletic, 5ft 11ins-6ft. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353897

**BLACK** female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male, 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382910

**LADY** 50, West Sussex, seeks generous romantic for discreet, special daytime fun, no strings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382870

**BEAUTIFUL** slim brunette, will try anything once, varied interests, seeks laid back male for friendship, good conversations and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353679 ☞

**REAL** party girl, blonde, 34, attractive and funny, looking for similar guy who also knows how to have a good time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353663 ☞

**OUTGOING** blonde, 29, big blue eyes, great personality, fun to be with, WLTm intelligent mature male for a loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353661 ☞

**VERY** attractive happy go lucky female, 37, long dark hair, lovely smile, seeks cool exciting guy to enjoy life to the full with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353659 ☞

**DISCO** queen, fun loving, black, attractive serene female, 37, slim, adores music, theatre, reading, nature, seeks genuine, caring gent, 36-49, N/S. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815

**VERY** pretty funny slim brunette, 39, fit and active, seeks good looking guy for fun romance and more. A.C.A. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354653 ☞

**TALL** blue eyed blonde, curvy and fun, loves dancing, seeks tall well built guy to share happy times and see what the future brings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354651 ☞

**ROCKEFELLER** 38, medium build, fair, funny, bubbly, likes conversation, seeks male for good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353359

**TALL** female, medium build, bubbly, chatty, likes nights in, cooking, days out, seeks interesting male for friendship, maybe more. Worthing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353357 ☞

**VICKY** attractive, kind, down to earth, black British, likes travel, writing, reading, cooking, socialising, seeks generous, good man who is family orientated. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353033

**YOUNG** black female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male, 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382706

**VOLUPTUOUS** bubbly female with red hair, 32, outgoing and fun, seeks genuine, down to earth male to enjoy life and love with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354649 ☞

**BEAUTIFUL** slim blonde 38, loving, sensual and a hopeless romantic, looking for love with similar tactile male to be her best mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354647 ☞

**PETITE** curvy cuddly blonde, hazel eyes, much love to give, seeks romantic, tactile male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354626 ☞

**SMALL** attractive black haired female, 23, WLTm someone special for a happy loving future together. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354621 ☞

**MISCHIEVOUS** female, feminine, attractive, cultured, likes arts, music, seeks strong minded male for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354619 ☞

**BEAUTIFUL** slim, Oriental babe, 22, seeks older, generous guy 65 plus who knows how to pamper. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 34854

**PRETTY** happy go lucky lady, no ties, seeks tall, slim, attractive guy with big heart as well as personality for fun friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352675 ☞

**QUIET** smart, brown eyed lady, likes meals out and dancing, WLTm laidback mature man to share laughter/TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352673 ☞

**CURVY** brunette, loving but a bit of a dreamer looking to share special times together with likeminded easygoing male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352671 ☞

**ATTRACTIVE** fun, friendly blonde, seeks fun guy. Sutton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382502

**TINY** attractive fun loving lady, likes to cook romantic meals, music and dancing, WLTm medium built likeminded male for loving LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352119 ☞

**ADORABLE** beauty, curvy, caring, down to earth, trained lawyer, seeks good man for friendship, companionship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351337

**LOVELY** green eyed brunette likes long romantic walks, seeks tall outgoing male with GSOH to light up her life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351343 ☞

**TALL** slim blonde, 46, loves to travel looking for someone genuine and honest to share cosy evenings in with a bottle of wine, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351341 ☞

**DOWN** to earth, slim brunette, curves in all the right places, looking for easygoing, fun guy for some relaxed fun times. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353415 ☞



**LIVELY** curvy blue eyed blonde, very active, seeks hunky energetic, likeminded guy with to get to know and hang out with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354615 ☞

**OUTGOING** blonde bombshell, 44, gorgeous green eyes, seeks caring male who is also looking for lots of fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353655 ☞

**CURVY** young looking widow loves dancing, nights out, but would prefer cosy nights in with that special male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353483 ☞

**WARM** hearted female, curves in all the right places, new to area, seeks intelligent male to share interests, friendship and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353419 ☞

**LOVELY** lady, 48, beautiful curves, many interests, just wants to meet honest decent guy and make him happy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353417 ☞

**60YR** old female, seeks special N/S, no drinking gent, loving and caring for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352553 ☞

**BERYL** 70 plus, 5ft 6ins, slim, fair hair, green eyes, seeks gent who likes travel, theatre, sports, meals out. Hampshire. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353165 ☞

**FEMALE** 60's, likes music, reading, Grandchildren, WLTm honest, trustworthy gent 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352853 ☞

**CUDDLY** bubbly female, 49, lovely personality, many interests WLTm nice man with similar interests for friendship first. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353453 ☞

**LEGGY** brunette, young 50's, easygoing looking for excitement, likes nature, animals, nights out, seeks similar tall, solvent male for fun and laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353421 ☞

**SLIM** blue eyed brunette, 48, loving and kind, hopeless romantic, likes pubs, nights in/out seeks similar romantic male to get to know. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353461 ☞

**ROSEMARY** 62, caring Christian, professional, divorced, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382496

**GORGEOUS** tall brunette, blue eyes, many fun interests looking for someone special to enjoy fun/new adventures with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352713 ☞

**ELEGANT** stylish blonde widow, young 59, very good company, looking for attractive, cultured, older male to share interests, good conversation and who knows. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353455 ☞

## Men Seeking

**LOVELY** warm 60 plus lady sought for special friendship with late 50's male, full heart, empty wallet, GSOH. Surrey/Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383192 ☞

**TOY** boy 20's, seeks Mrs Claus for a fantastic Christmas full of lust and passion. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354925 ☞

**YOUNG** good looking, medium build, older male, mid 30's, seeks mature, older female for fun and passionate evenings in this cold weather. London/Herts. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354877

**GRAHAM** 55, 5ft 11ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, N/S, friendly, reliable, genuine, GSOH, easygoing, honest, tactile, likes most things, seeks attractive, slim-medium, N/S female, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383156 ☞

**FUN** loving guy 50, 5ft 10ins, seeks outgoing, feminine, mature female 45-60. TLC. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354803

**SINGLE** professional Indian male, N/S, attractive, 5ft 7ins, medium build, vegetarian, 50, young outlook, seeks white female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354781 ☞

If you are over 50, not over the hill, naughty man over 55 who will be a challenge awaits your call. Waterloo/iville. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355105

**MALE** 55, passionate, lots of TLC to give adventurous, broadminded lady looking for soul mate. Hampshire. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354851

**50'S** and still sexy, looking for a pleasant, passionate man who will hit the right buttons. Me 55, just call. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354849

**SIMPLY** fabulous funky redhead, 39, down to earth, fit and active, seeks laid back, passionate guy to share red wine, good conversation, maybe more. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352711 ☞

**EXOTIC** curvy female, excellent cook, fit and active seeking mature white male to pamper and be looked after in return. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352705 ☞

**ATTRACTIVE** blue eyed blonde, 41, no ties, seeks someone easygoing and fun who can make life a bit more interesting. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352703 ☞

**PETITE** blonde, 39, seeks tall genuine fun to be with male to be happy and let her hair down with. A.C.A. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352677 ☞

**OLD** fashioned girl, 49, fun, friendly, seeks mature male for fun times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382192

**KAREN** 51, smoker, many interests, seeks country loving guy, 35-45 who is fun, loving and caring. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382050 ☞

**LYN** young 50yr old lady, divorced, attractive, size 16, black hair, green eyes, no ties, dog, likes walks, meals out, nights in, socialising, seeks gent, 40-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350023

**WHITE** male, 52, likes cinema, holidays, weekends away, seeks sincere, genuine, black lady, 35 plus for serious relationship. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354543 ☞

**MALE** seeks female, 27-30 for fun and friendship. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354465 ☞

**MARCUS** 35, 6ft 1ins, dark hair, average build, good looking, sporty, many interests, seeks female/couple for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383064

**CURVES** quest! Tall, slim, artist chap, seeks buxom, voluptuous lady for movie going and popcorn munching. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354331 ☞

**PROFESSIONAL** male, N/S, moderate drinker, seeks black/Oriental female, 35-43 for LTR. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383058 ☞

**HASTINGS** male, 46, 5ft 10ins, medium build, blue eyes, fair hair, GSOH, chatty, romantic, caring, likes walks, cycling, sports times, seeks similar female, 23-48 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383050 ☞

**MUCH** too young to be 57, hardworking, nice guy, slim, 5ft 6ins, smoker, smart/casual, missing female company, likes most things, looking for a fun LTR. Hastings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383032 ☞

**52YR** old male, slim, 5ft 9ins, N/S, lots of love, care, attention to give to female of similar age. Crawley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354211

**6FT** 2ins black guy, seeks female for no strings fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383028 ☞

**NICE** guy 52, average build, seeks curvy female, 24-45 for LTR. Wembley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353355

**ANOTHER** successful male, 45, 6ft, fit, adventurous, fun loving, romantic, seeks attractive, outgoing female to enjoy the good things in life. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353349

**51YR** old retired chef, 5ft 8ins, Irish/Italian, down to earth, seeks petite female, any age/looks. Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382806

**DAVID** 51, divorced, shy, 5ft 7ins, seeks female for friendship, 45 plus. Worthing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382784 ☞

**MALE** seeks slim female, 38-48 with varied interests. S London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353017

**SLIM** 52yr old male, 5ft 9ins, N/S, lots of love to give, seeks similar aged female to share life together. Crawley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352865 ☞

**CHRIS** 49, own home, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353977

**MALE** youthful 60's, slim, N/S, mild OCD, likes most things, seeks similar attractive, kind, genuine female for relationship. East Grinstead. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352363

**GENUINE** nice guy young 50's, romantic, tactile, solvent, GSOH, likes music, countryside, DIY, car boots, candlelit cuisine, seeks cuddly, attractive lady, Haslemere. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353843

**LOCAL** Andover male, seeks local Andover female, 30-50 for loving, lasting relationship. N/S with no children. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353787 ☞

**MIKE** 50, attractive, medium build, easygoing, likes a laugh, seeks female with similar disposition. Sutton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382882 ☞

**TALL** white guy, brown hair/eyes, 49, seeks female with good personality for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354113

**BLUE** eyed male, 60's, slim, active, 5ft 5ins, solvent, seeks socialising, drives, travel, seeks petite female for LTR. Burgess Hill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382996 ☞

**SLIM** white male, 47, young looks, likes cinema, walks, reading, seeks curvy, large female for LTR. Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353889

**EASYGOING** fun loving guy 6ft 2ins, mousey hair, blue/grey eyes, likes pubs, clubs, walks, motor-bikes, seeks soul mate. Littlehampton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382948 ☞

**ATTRACTIVE** blond, blue eyed male, HIV positive, extremely genuine, sincere, GSOH, OHAC, seeks warm, Oriental/Black/Asian female. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353693

**26YR** old tall male, dark complexion, handsome, caring, seeks female, 18-40 for kisses, cuddles nights in/out and love. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354131 ☞

**MALE** seeks female for serious relationship. Stratford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354095 ☞

**WHITE** male, young looks, new to area, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Hastings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382330 ☞

**FUNNY** chatty 44yr old male, seeks special lady for special times. Cheam. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382534 ☞

**GENUINE** male, 39, fit, handsome, seeks female, 18-30 for fun, laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352235

## Gay Seeking

**ATTRACTIVE** not scene gay, late 20's, seeks older, solvent gent, 65 plus for mutual fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348543

**ATTRACTIVE** tall, white hunk, non scene, straight acting, seeks older gent, 65 plus for mutual spilling and pampering. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348543

**TERRY** seeks younger male for good times. Gosport. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352051 ☞

**YOUNG** 60yr old male, likes cats, cooking, travel, seeks male, 54-70, CD/TV to share life. Bexhill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382616 ☞

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# Enjoy the last in the Narnia series, but it won't be a tearful farewell

■ BY DAMON SMITH

THERE'S action and adventure afoot in the third book of CS Lewis's enchanting Narnia series, published back in the 1950s.

Following on from the daring escapades of Prince Caspian, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* sets sail without the two eldest Pevensie children, Peter (William Moseley) and Susan (Anna Popplewell), and press-gangs some fresh talent to carry the series into the choppy waters of the fourth book, *The Silver Chair*.

Director Michael Apted bows down to the current fad of 3D format but this version of the film barely takes advantage of the eye-popping possibilities.

Most of the cast return with the notable absence of Eddie Izzard as the voice of sword-wielding mouse, Reepicheep.

He's replaced by Simon Pegg, who rouses the cast into action by telling the children: "There is no honour in turning away from adventure."

The film opens with Peter away at university and Susan in America, consigning Lucy (Georgie Henley) and Edmund (Skandar Keynes) to a miserable stay with stuffy cousin, Eustace Scrubb (Will Poulter).

He collects insects and can't think of anything nicer than pinning his relatives to the wall like butterfly specimens.

"Note to self: investigate the legal ramifications of impaling relatives," he writes in his journal.

During a fight between Edmund and Eustace, a painting in the guest bedroom magically transports all three children to Narnia and on to the titular vessel captained by Drinian (Gary Sweet).

Eustace is aghast but Lucy and Edmund settle in quickly as Narnian royalty, reuniting with King Caspian (Ben Barnes) and Reepicheep (Pegg) aboard *The Dawn Treader*.

It transpires that Caspian is on a quest to locate the swords of seven lost noblemen and



**WAVE OF 3D:** There's plenty of action and adventure in the finale of the Narnia series, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*

the Pevensie children pledge their support, encountering the White Witch (Tilda Swinton) and the majestic lion Aslan (Liam Neeson) along the way.

"Until you lay down the seventh sword, evil has the upper hand," reveals the magician



Coriakin (Bille Brown).

"To defeat the darkness out there, you must defeat the darkness inside yourself," he adds helpfully.

*The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* is the most crudely constructed of the films, loosely stitch-

ing together the set pieces with comical alterations between Eustace and his courageous cousins.

Inevitably, the new boy discovers the hero within, while Lucy learns valuable lessons about self-confidence and beauty.

Production design is impressive and the script introduces two monsters for the special effects-heavy finale that should delight younger audiences.

Poulter matures from comic relief to would-be hero – he's the central character of the fourth book – while Henley and Keynes make the most of their underwritten roles before they too bid a tearful farewell to their fantastical friends.

Our eyes remain dry.

**THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER**  
Certificate PG 



**NOT SO SIMPLE:** Nigel Slater's cookery series just leaves us feeling inadequate



## YOUR TV REVIEW

**NIGEL SLATER'S SIMPLE SUPPERS:** Channel 4, 9pm, Monday

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

THE second series of Nigel Slater's *Simple Suppers* came to an end last week. The programme owes much to his namesake Nigella Lawson. The show is full of the same slow panning shots over steaming food that has been lovingly caressed onto the dinner plate by its creator.

Mr Slater also delivers his pieces to camera with a cheeky glint in his eye and narration that suggests cooking is as sexy as Fenella Fielding smoking on the chaise longue in *Carry on Screaming*.

This whole programme has touched a raw nerve with me. Not only do we have to put up with yet another cooking programme in primetime but it is also totally misleading.

To most of us a simple supper is something like beans on toast or an omelette but this is not the case with Mr Slater.

No he decides to rustle up pork loins in beer or cook alfresco with his home grown chard.

Each of the programmes in the series has some pretentious title like: "Too Good to Waste" or "Unsung Heroes".

In the former episode Nigel suggests all the imaginative things we can do with those unwanted bits and bobs that get forgotten at the back of the fridge or that reside in a dusty cupboard.

The only thing is, to make these old nuggets of potato and crusty cheese taste good Nigel, unlike the rest of us, has a whole host of weird and wonderful ingredients at his disposal.

Let's face it, a stale old cream cracker tastes great once you do a little caviar on top.

He is also a great advocate of grow

your own too. Throughout the series not only do we get the chance to see Nigel's little green heaven, he also visits mere mortals who have managed to grow a turnip in their acre of home counties hillside.

It may taste nice but it's not an option open to the population who live in flats or whose terrace house has a garden only big enough for an old coal bin and a rotary washing line.

This really is aspiration TV of the worst kind. Don't kid us this is something we can all do. It just makes us feel shameful when we reach for the ready meal on the supermarket shelf or heat up cold tea in the microwave. If Nigel warmed his tea he would grow his own woodland, fell the trees, chop the wood and build a fire just to infuse his brew with that unforgettable charcoal flavour; just in time for the next series.



## MOTORS NEWS



### Hyundai's downsizer comes with all the toys

HYUNDAI cranks up competition in the mini-MPV sector from November 18 with the launch of its roomy yet compact ix20, priced from £11,595.

The niche was identified by the Honda Jazz, but the trend for downsizing has increased demand and choice and the Hyundai will appeal not just on pricing, but also with its five-year warranty.

Standard features kicking off three trim levels include height-adjustable driver's seat, air con, six airbags plus active head restraints, and six-speaker sound system with MP3/USB input.



### Lexus hybrid cuts costs without compromise

LEXUS has announced an attractive entry price of £23,485 for its all-new CT200h executive hatchback hybrid.

With a road tax-exempt 94g/km CO2 emissions, potential average mpg of nearly 70 and a 10 per cent benefit-in-kind company car tax rating plus the upmarket badge, the petrol-electric model should make company car user choosers think twice.

But buyers will need to opt for mid-grade SE-L (£25,200) for the true executive leather seats, with heated front ones.



### C3 gets Cherry aid to boost Picasso's sales

IT probably didn't need it, but Citroën's award-winning C3 Picasso MPV (from £12,695) has been updated and is now available with an ultra-low emission 110bhp diesel and six-speed gearbox.

The 90bhp sister diesel is also sold in a Blackcherry special edition (£15,195), with cherry red and black detailing, plus high spec including roof bars, cherry red diamond-tipped alloys, air con, cruise control and USB/Bluetooth connectivity.

All C3 Picasso diesels now escape road tax in year one and the whole range has energy-saving Michelin tyres.



**DISTINCTIVE:** The almost all-new Saab 9-5 delivers everything you'd expect from the brand – turbocharged generous spec, comfort, acres of space, and traditional design

# Saab back from the brink with powerful new twist

ONLY Sweden's Saab – famous for original thinking – could have fabricated a Norse saga involving the brand's near death experience earlier this year.

The former General Motors (GM) brand is fast reviving though, in partnership with Dutch supercar maker Spyker, and tapping into much goodwill in the UK, where it is also celebrating 50 years in the car market.

Leading the revival is the long-awaited Saab 9-5 replacement – the previous car can trace its origins to 1997.

Though based on the classy Vauxhall Insignia during Saab's final years with GM, as much as 70 per cent of the new 9-5 is all our own work, say the Swedes.

The distinctive bodywork is certainly in the great Saab tradition – so, in Abba-speak, you could say the brand is re-Bjorn.

It is priced from £26,695 with a generous standard spec and hi-tech features including aircraft-style head-up display, adaptive lighting and cruise control, adaptive chassis, keyless entry and starting, dual-zone air con; dynamic

## ROAD TEST SAAB 9-5

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

parking assistance and all-wheel drive.

The engine line-up is all turbocharged – what did you expect from the turbo master brand? – and includes a 1.6-litre petrol unit that concedes little in performance to the slightly dearer diesel entry model, though fuel consumption is markedly inferior.

The 160PS (157bhp) 2.0-litre TiD Vector SE diesel we tested feels heavy and, like standard versions of the Insignia – not as nimble as you come to expect from BMW and Audi rivals.

But the ride comfort and long-distance cruising ability is impressive, with loads of space for those in the back and a massive boot.

The cabin isn't gaudy or innovative, but just carefully laid out in the Saab way; aficionados like to think Saab dashboards can trace their lineage back to the aviation parent company.

The powertrain and six-speed auto gearbox matches this refinement and the front-end styling won't let you down in the office car park.

I think the designer's hand strayed a little towards the rear of the car, but this opinion started a lively debate whenever I raised it with colleagues, so it's one of those "beauty is in the eye of the beholder" motors.

• Email [newsdesk@yourkent.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk@yourkent.co.uk)



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 with contrasting  
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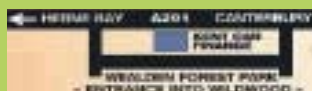
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159, 3.2 V6 JTS 04 LUSSO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player climate control power steering remote central locking remote audio controls body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 30376 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDm LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDm 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

## AUDI

A3, 2.0 TDI 170 SE 3dr S Tronic, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats traction control remote central locking adjustable steering column front armrest rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, pearl moon blue, 24000 miles, £10900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 T FSI S line DSG, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, grey, 84428 miles, £8750, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, Sport (Plus Motoparks Pack and Delivery), 2003, abs brakes alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering single cd player, silver, 68000 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, TFSI Black Edition (Plus Motoparks Pack and Del), 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control remote central locking, white, 15385 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

## BMW

1 SERIES, 120D M SPORT, 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel electric windows full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, blue, 8178 miles, £19800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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1 SERIES, 116i M Sport 1.6, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multi cd player power fold mirrors leather interior power steering auto headlights and wipers remote audio controls rear headrests height adj drivers seat, black, 29000 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Maintenance skills lost on younger generation

DIY knowledge that used to be passed down through the generations is now being "lost in the midst of time", Homebuilding & Renovating magazine has said.

The comments follow research by Saga Home Insurance, based in Sandgate, which found that younger people are now far more likely to rely on professional help to fix problems in the home, rather than carry out work themselves.

According to the report, 18 per cent of adults under the age of 40 would pay a tradesman to repair leaking or broken pipes in their property, compared to five per cent who would attempt to mend them personally.

Jason Orme, editor of Homebuilding & Renovating, said many younger homeowners now work such long hours that performing home improvement tasks in their spare time is the "last thing they want to do".

"There is no question that many young people don't tend to have those basic DIY maintenance skills anymore and it is disappointing," he added.

The research from Saga revealed over-50s were three times more likely than under-35s to repair pipes, while more than a quarter of the older age group would replace missing roof tiles, compared with just one per cent of their younger peers.

### Market trends causing increase in cost to rent

INCREASED demand and a fall in the supply of new properties led to a rise in rents in the three months to the end of October, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) has reported.

In its latest survey, 39 per cent more surveyors reported seeing an increase, rather than a fall, in rents compared with a positive balance of 27 per cent during the previous three months.

The reading is now at its highest since the second quarter of 2007, tenant demand having been boosted by a shortage of mortgage finance and lenders' demands for high deposits.

Across the UK, London saw the biggest increase in rental prices and even prospects in the North, where rents have been falling, took a turn for the better.

The Institution's spokesperson, Jeremy Leaf, said: "The lettings sector has become increasingly strong over the past nine months, in contrast to the housing market which continues to slow."



# South East the best in UK as house price slump continues

■ BY NICK AMES

THE LATEST house price index from the Nationwide Building Society has revealed a 0.3 per cent fall for the month of November compared with October – the fourth time in five months that prices registered a fall.

The latest fall means house prices are now just 0.4 per cent higher than this time last year, with the average UK home costing £163,398.

However, regional variations continue to be a factor – with the South East performing better than other parts of the UK.

Worst figures are for the north of England and Scotland while analysts say good rail and road links and an increase in demand for coastal homes have been factors in making the local market less affected.

But Nationwide's chief economist Martin Gahbauer said house price declines are unlikely to accelerate "in the months ahead".

"There is little to indicate that these sellers need to achieve a sale urgently for financial or economic reasons which means the downward pressure on house prices is only modest," he said.

There is little good news surrounding the housing market currently.

Earlier this week housing intelligence group Hometrack revealed their house prices figures for England and Wales fell for the fifth consecutive month in November.

According to Hometrack house prices fell by 0.8 per cent in the month to £155,000.

Other housing surveys suggest the market is cooling. The Land Registry reported a 0.8 per



**FALLING MARKET:** As house prices continue to fall mortgage lenders have also seen a drop in numbers of applicants

cent fall in house prices for the month of October, while figures revealed a slump in the number of homes sold in October in the UK.

### Expectations

According to government statistics 79,000 homes worth at least £40,000 or more were sold in the month, a fall of 11 per cent on an annual basis.

The number of new mortgages approved in the month fell to 30,766, down from 31,058 in September – representing the lowest level

since March 2009 – when the country was in the midst of its worst recession in decades.

The figures confounded analysts expectations of a rise to 31,300 and continue to suggest the mortgage market will remain subdued over the coming months.

The Council of Mortgage Lenders and the Bank of England have both reported falls in mortgage lending over recent months.

Meanwhile, house prices are expected to continue to come under pressure as new instructions continue to outstrip buyer demand.

# Householders encouraged to insulate their homes as cold snap and rising energy costs take a hold

THIS winter has delivered an unexpected early icy blast with some areas already having been subjected to six inches of snow, and with the sub-zero temperatures expected to continue this is an early indication of the long and extremely cold months ahead.

In fact, in some parts of Britain it was actually colder than Greenland, so those householders who failed to check out their home insulation earlier in the year will no doubt be really feeling the cold.

The National Insulation

Association (NIA) is advising that it's never too late to obtain the benefits of home insulation, and householders don't need to sit and suffer for the rest of the winter as there is still time to rectify a home's energy performance.

### Alarming

A spokesman for the group said: "Just as your body quickly loses heat if you venture into the cold without extra clothes, un-insulated roofs and walls are letting more than 40 per cent of your

home's energy escape so it is common sense to add a few layers.

"Also, with soaring energy bills and further increases on the horizon, householders should really question whether they can afford to allow this alarming rate of heat loss to continue.

"Cavity wall and loft insulation is straight forward and simple to install, not only making a warmer, cosier home, but dramatically reducing energy bills too.

"In fact, the average household can save around £265 per year

and insulation pays for itself within two years meaning you continue to save money year on year.


"To find out if your home is adequately insulated and how you can improve its energy efficiency, contact a member of the NIA for a free survey. All members of the NIA are governed by a strict code of professional practice and are experienced to recommend the most suitable insulation option for your home as well as information about grants and subsidies you may be eligible for."

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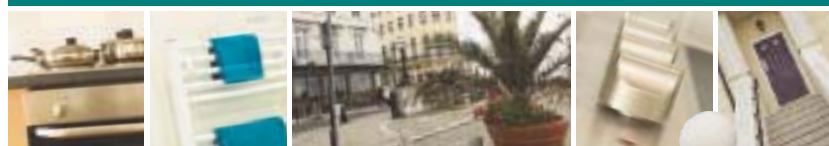
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GOAL RUSH: Broadstairs (in gold) thrashed Tenterden

## Broadstairs in seventh heaven after big win

### Broadstairs 7 Tenterden 2

BROADSTAIRS snapped out of their losing run in dramatic fashion as they smashed seven goals past Tenterden Town to record their biggest win of the season.

Having lost five on the bounce, Broadstairs were starting to drift dangerously towards the relegation zone in Division Two East of the Kent County League.

However, they flew out of the traps after a three-week break from action and gained the perfect revenge for their last meeting with

### FOOTBALL

Tenterden, when they slumped to a 6-3 loss at the Recreation Ground.

John Salter scored twice for Broadstairs on Saturday, but the goalscoring credit was shared across the side as six different players netted for the home team.

Former Ramsgate striker Kenny Pratt got himself on the scoresheet and there were also goals for Dan Piper, Mike Pile, Matt Adams and Scott Holden as the home side ran riot.

Harry Goddard and Peter Sikora scored

Tenterden's goals but the visitors had no answer to the attacking effervescence of Broadstairs, who now sit sixth in the table.

Forward-thinking has not been a problem for Gary Beckett's side this season, with only leaders Lydd Town having scored more goals to this point. However, their leaky defence continues to be a worry and Broadstairs have not kept a clean sheet in the league since the middle of September.

They return on Saturday with a trip to basement club Guru Nanak, knowing another win would leave them in a far healthier position as the season reaches its halfway point.

Picture NICK DUNGAN



SHARP: Cliftonville (in blue) showed no signs of being out of action for three weeks

## Lay-off does Ville the world of good

### Cliftonville 3

### University of Kent 1

CLIFTONVILLE showed few signs of rustiness after a three-week lay-off as they saw off University of Kent to maintain their place at the top of Kent Division One.

The home side, having been frustrated by the snow and ice in previous weeks, converted three penalty corners to defeat the students and now hold a two-point advantage over second-placed Tunbridge Wells.

Ville went into the game with several players missing from their defence, meaning Paul Cobb and Stuart Ballard were both pressed into action.

Early on, the hosts looked comfortable in possession and they always posed a threat on the counter-attack, but despite the best efforts of Matt Westby and Dan McGrath, they could find no way through.

However, the opening goal was not long in coming and when Jack Bradley's strong run down the right led to a penalty corner, the ball crept into the students' net via a deflection.

Rob Macer and James Perks' hard work was rewarded with a second goal when James Provins turned home another corner from a tight angle.

The visitors halved the deficit before the interval, though, when they took maximum advantage after being awarded a questionable penalty flick.

After the break, both sides had their chances and Ville goalkeeper Andrew Woodward produced a string of good saves to preserve his side's slender lead.

The result was sealed ten minutes from time when Michael Burney swept home a third penalty corner. Ville look to end the year top of the table as they travel to Holcombe on Saturday for a game called off because of snow last month.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT**  
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



CHANCES: Warren Schulz (left) battled in vain and George Amber (right) had an attempt cleared off the line before Ramsgate faltered in the dying moments and Merstham snatched victory



Picture DAVID STEWART

# Last-gasp Merstham strike brings Rams' run to a halt

RAMSGATE'S three-game unbeaten run came to a dramatic end against Merstham as Harry Ottaway struck in stoppage-time to sink Jim Ward's side at Southwood.

The Rams will feel harshly treated after enjoying the game's better chances, but their profligacy in front of goal was eventually punished as the Surrey side stole all three points.

Ward named the same team which beat Eastbourne Town seven days earlier and the home side went close early on when Aaron Beech's free-kick fell invitingly for Mark Lovell, but goalkeeper Ian Chatfield smothered his effort.

Lovell had another chance to opening the scoring soon after when he forced Chatfield to parry his header over the bar, and the Merstham stopper was also to deny Warren Schulz after Lovell had sent him clear.

The visitors failed to create much going forward in the first period, but they almost took a surprise lead when Ottaway drew a smart save from Jack Smelt.

Merstham grew in confidence after the interval and began to pose a greater threat in the final third, with Michael Corbett wasting a superb chance to put them in front.

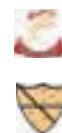
### FOOTBALL

■ BY YOURTHANET REPORTER

### Ramsgate 0

### Merstham 1

Ottaway 90



### Ramsgate starting XI



Subs used: Lockyer (Axon 62), Amber (Lovell 77)

As Ottaway chased a long pass forward, Smelt rushed out and headed the ball clear of immediate danger, but Corbett collected the rebound and looked up before drilling his shot over the open goal.

Buoyed by the reprieve, the Rams looked to seize the initiative and Simon Pettit, the hat-trick hero against Eastbourne, ran through before seeing his shot charged down.

A Pettit long-throw then fell to Schulz on the edge of the box, but his strike lacked accuracy and was easily gathered by Chatfield after whistling through a forest of legs on its way to goal.

Ramsgate's two substitutes almost combined to break the deadlock late on, as Gary Lockyer

led a fast break out of defence and crossed for George Amber, who beat Chatfield but saw his shot cleared off the line.

Lockyer tried his luck with a free-kick in the dying moments, but when Chatfield gathered the ball, he kicked downfield and set up the break which led to Ottaway stabbing beyond Smelt for the winning goal.

Ward's side will look to bounce back from the defeat this weekend as they travel to face a Godalming Town side three points above them in Ryman South.

The Rams were in action last night (Tuesday) as they entertained Chatham Town in the Kent Senior Cup. Log on to [www.yourthanet.co.uk](http://www.yourthanet.co.uk) for match details.



# Wanderers defeat gives derby extra significance

## RUGBY

BY STEVE TERVET

### Wimbledon 34 Thanet Wanderers 17

THANET Wanderers head into Saturday's derby with Dover under increased pressure after suffering a damaging defeat at the hands of fellow strugglers Wimbledon.

An eighth straight loss on the road has left Wanderers in the London 1 South relegation places and they host the Sharks knowing their season now hangs in the balance.

With Wimbledon, now a place above them, away to lowly Cobham this weekend, Thanet head coach Tom Carlier is fully aware how critical a derby triumph could prove.

"We're fighting off relegation now and if we win, we'll really step up for the second-half of the season," he said. "There's a lot of hard work to do, but I would love to win it, it's a local derby and it's the game of the season, against Dover. I can't see any reason why we can't beat them."

"Dover have been struggling the last few weeks and people have been saying it's a good time to play them because

they've got injuries, but you don't want to see our injuries. There's another couple out this week, so how much worse can it get? Both teams will be affected by injuries, but they've got four superstar players and if they're available, everybody steps up a gear."

Thanet left themselves with a mountain to climb from the start at Wimbledon as they gifted the home side a try from the first move of the game, a blow from which they never recovered.

Even with several key players missing, Wanderers were a match for the home side technically, but Carlier was left to reflect on a display which lacked desire and fight.

"The teams were evenly matched all over the pitch and if our backline had been on fire, we'd have left them for dead," he said. "They won every 50-50 ball and the hurdle we really need to get over is a psychological one."

"Their guys wanted it more and when they started winning, our body language suggested we weren't going to get back into it. We just made too many mistakes and we're unable to take our form and confidence away from home. They weren't bad, but they weren't outstanding by any stretch of the imagination."

Now three points from safety, Thanet must hope to replicate the home form which has seen them turn over Chichester and Haywards Heath as they face a Dover side showing signs of recovery after a run of five games without a win.



RELEGATION FIGHT: Thanet's defeat against Wimbledon was their eighth away loss and they desperately need to beat Dover on Saturday

## BOXING



PROSPECTS: Hayden Telles (in black) is one of a number of Isle of Thanet youngsters putting the club's name on the boxing map

### Isle ring ace Leach coach's tip for top

COACHES at the Isle of Thanet Amateur Boxing Club believe they are harbouring a future Olympian just three years after opening their doors for the first time.

Edward Leach, already a county and regional champion, has been tipped to represent his country at the top level after attracting attention from the Great Britain set-up.

The 18-year-old was part of the England team at the Four Nations boxing event in Dublin in October and Thanet head coach Neil Leach is confident the best is yet to come.

"He's got potential" he said. "The Commonwealth Games in 2014 are possible and I think he'll go on to do well because he's rated quite highly. Edward's been requested to be put forward for the GB squad, but it's a long process and while he'd love to box at the Olympics, it's probably not possible this time."

With senior boxers Jimmy Lawrence and Rik Leach ranked in the top-ten in the country, the club's reputation is growing quickly.

Leach is looking to attract fresh sponsorship to ensure they can continue to provide a platform for the area's talented fighters.

He said: "We've only been going three seasons but we're doing well in championships and putting the island on the map regarding national status."

Potential sponsors should contact Neil Leach on 07779 616707 or via the Isle of Thanet Amateur Boxing Club page on Facebook.

## LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

### RYMAN PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Sutton United	18	11	5	2	+17	38
2 Bury Town	18	10	5	3	+8	35
3 Kingstonian	16	10	2	4	+12	32
4 Cray Wanderers	19	9	4	6	+16	31
5 AFC Hornchurch	18	8	6	4	+4	30
6 Concord Rangers	18	8	5	5	+6	29
7 Billericay Town	17	8	5	4	+3	29
8 Lowestoft Town	14	8	4	2	+13	28
9 Carshalton Athletic	17	8	3	6	+9	27
10 Hendon	14	7	5	2	+12	26
11 Tonbridge Angels	17	7	4	6	+3	25
12 Canvey Island	17	6	6	5	+5	24
13 Wealdstone	19	6	5	8	-1	23
14 Margate	18	5	6	7	+1	21
15 Tooting & Mitcham United	20	5	6	9	-14	21
16 Harrow Borough	15	5	3	7	-4	18
17 Hastings United	19	4	6	9	-5	18
18 Horsham	18	4	5	9	-16	17
19 Folkestone Invicta	18	3	6	9	-12	15
20 Maidstone United	19	2	8	9	-13	14
21 Aveley	18	3	4	11	-16	13
22 Croydon Athletic	19	3	3	13	-28	12

### RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

1 Leatherhead	19	13	4	2	+35	43
2 Metropolitan Police	16	12	3	1	+31	39
3 Whitehawk	20	11	6	3	+25	39
4 Bognor Regis Town	14	10	2	2	+19	32
5 Burgess Hill Town	19	9	5	5	+6	32
6 Sittingbourne	19	9	4	6	+10	31
7 Walton Casuals	19	8	5	6	+4	29
8 Merstham	19	7	7	5	0	28
9 Faversham Town	19	7	6	6	+1	27
10 Worthing	17	7	5	5	+13	26
11 Godalming Town	18	8	2	8	-15	26
12 Ramsgate	21	6	5	10	-5	23
13 Chipstead	18	6	5	7	-5	23
14 Eastbourne Town	20	5	7	8	-8	22
15 Dulwich Hamlet	17	6	3	8	0	21
16 Walton & Hersham	18	6	3	9	-4	21
17 Fleet Town	15	6	3	6	-4	21
18 Chatham Town	19	6	3	10	-12	21
19 Whyteleafe	19	5	3	11	-15	18
20 Corinthian-Casuals	19	4	3	12	-14	15
21 Whitstable Town	18	2	5	11	-16	11
22 Horsham YMCA	19	3	1	15	-46	10

### FIXTURES (Saturday):

Ryman League Premier Division: Margate v Hendon  
Ryman Division One South: Godalming Town v Ramsgate

# Crucial league game for Blues after break

## FOOTBALL

MARGATE finally return to league action on Saturday after a three-week break with manager Iain O'Connell desperate for a positive result at home to Hendon.

The Blues have not played a competitive game since their dramatic 3-3 draw with Tooting & Mitcham last month and with just one win in nine outings, O'Connell knows things have to change fast.

However, suspensions rule both Jay Saunders and James Pinnock out of Saturday's game, which could see Margate slip to within three points of the Ryman Premier relegation zone.

O'Connell said: "It's a massive game for us – we need three points, simple as that. There's no doubt about it, that's what the boys want and that's what the board wants."

A 1-0 friendly win at Lewes on Saturday did give O'Connell cause for optimism after a run of four league games which has seen the Blues ship 12 goals.

Shaun Welford scored the only goal at the Dripping Pan and the Gate boss was impressed by the return of Sam Groombridge in defence, while Dan Stubbs and Dean Grant were given their opportunity to audition for the gaps left by Saunders and Pinnock.

"We played really well and fully deserved the victory," O'Connell said. "Jamie Turner had one save to make all game so it was good to get back to defending well."



OPPORTUNITY: Dan Stubbs could start against Hendon

"We haven't got the biggest squad so it was nice to see the lads taking their chance in the team. Sam's had some games with Whitstable and looked very assured, so he'll be in the starting line-up on Saturday."

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